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To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor in Council

Fort St. George

1289/1622

My Lord,

1st In our address of the 9th Instant we advised your Lordship that we should p[repare] and transmit our Revenue Report, in conformity [to] your Instructions of the 3d June with the lea[st] possible delay, and we have now the honor to submit such Information on the Subject as we have been enabled, by much diligent Inquiry to obtain, and which we hope will afford your Lord[ship] Satisfaction. —

2nd We shall in the first instance, pursuan[t] to these Instructions take a Retrospect of Mr. Wynch's Management, and in order to exhibit in a clear point of View the Collections, we have prepared th[e] Statements referred to in the Margin the last mentioned [is] an Abstract of the others and [the] total Gross Collections, Charges, and Nett [...]

With[...] to [...]

MADURA Dt.

Collections made in the Circar, Lan

we took occasion immediately on our arrival

summon the Village Curnums to Dindigul for

the purpose of investigating their accounts - The

Curnums of Pylney were also summoned to give

an Account of the Collections made in that Distr

and we deputed to the resumed Pollams of Sukam

-patty Madoor and Sandagoor, Persons selected f

the Duty, to endeavour to obtain authentic -

Accounts of the Collections which have been ma

by the Amildars since their Resumption. The Resu

will appear in the Statements noted in the -

Margin. -

The Statements KLMN.

6th. At the same time that we tra

these Documents as containing the most acc

Information we have been enabled to pro

we must observe, that we by no mean

them to comprise the whole Collections w

have been made; on the Contrary, we a

persuaded from Circumstances wha

come to our Knowledge, that muc

and deligence have been employed

of their respective Districts in the greatest intricacy with the view to prevent the detection of their abu[ses] tho' by the means pursued we have succeeded in effecting some discoveries of Embezzlements wh[ich] it has been attempted to conceal from us. -

5th In order to satisfy ourselves in [a] particular with respect to the fallacy of the acco[unts] in the Pylney District, we deputed a Confidential Person to collect from the Inhabitants of two Villag[es] pointed out to him, a Statement of the Actual Payments to the Amildars, which on being compar[ed] with the Collections from the same Villages as taken from the Curnums Accounts, exceeded the latter by Chuckrums 1206:9:9 or Star Pagodas 722:37:38. The Curnums having been called upon to explain the cause of this Concealment observed, that the Inhabitants had included Enam Lands in their Report, but this was a deception, and we believe the fact to be, that the Curnums in general in the Pylney District have suppressed under the head Enams or Lands exempt from Tax, that pro[portion] of the actual Revenue collected, which [...]

desire of Triwangoody the late Manager, or of their own accord they meant should not be discovered—

6th In regard to the resumed Pollams of Madoor and Tickampetty, we find that the Poligars, tho' considered to have been dispossess'd of all Power in their Respective Districts, have actually retained armed Peons in their Employ and an authority over the Curnums, and Inhabitants which has enabled them not only to obstruct the Collections on behalf of the Company but to continue Collections on their own Account, reserving to themselves besides a large portion of the best Lands near their Places of Residence under the denomination of Enam, the Produce of which they have collected, and entirely appropriated to their own purposes; and from the Resumed Pollam of Sandezoor, the Nett Payments into the Treasury since June 1795 have been Star Pagodas 220: 10: 69. The Cultivation is reported to have received a great Check from disturbances occasioned by the Poligar, Gopia Naigue, who was expelled, but from Report much is to be imputed to mismanage

by the amildar. -

7th Abuses appear to have also existed in the Collection of Customs, which we have not bee able sufficiently to develope from the very frequent change of the Manigar, or Collectors, and the absence of many of them, it is impossible to form any Statement of the actual Collections which could be relied on; but separate from the Collections a part of the Revenue has been sunk by the exemptions of Customs accorded to Individuals, the amount of which it is not possible to compu

8th Mr. Wynch remarks upon this Subje in his answers to the Questions referred to, in a Subsequent part of this report (Para 10) "In Respect to the Sayer the exemptions mentioned, "if true, could not be owing to my Servants as "the Custom Manigar applied to me on the Subje "alledging, that it was usual for the Renters to "pass their Paddy free, and thought themself "aggrieved that I did not allow it, Ameenta "Chitty had a Privilege from Sied Sahib, w "has ever since been continued, of a deducti "the Customs paid by him; I do not recoll

exact proportion, The Exemption in favor of Tondaray Moodilly I believe to be Paddy on account of the Company sent in from Diodanapully. —

9th On inquiring into the Management of this Branch of Revenue, soon after our arrival in the District, the following discovery was made Viz.t It appearing in the List of public Servants that "Sawmy Moodilly" was Manegar, or Collector of Customs in the Cusbah District, orders were given for his attendance, a man answering to the name was accordingly produced; but on finding that another Man called "Carnatick Sawmy Moodilly" was the actual Manegar, not only of the Cusbah Sayer, but of the Customs of all the Circar Districts, we investigated the Subject, and found, that on the day of, or immediately before Mr. Harington's " arrival at Dindigul the Cadjan, or Paper appointing the Sawmy Moodilly Manegar, and Superintendent of all the Customs from December last, was torn to pieces by, or by the order of Vasoodava Pilly, and that in lieu thereof the said Sawmy Moodilly gave a Security Bond

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Bond, holding himself answerable for the Conduct, and Collections of one Tilla Naigum Villay, who was termed the Superintendent. The said Saumy Moodilly was in consequence questioned, and gave

No. 1. in a Paper, of which a Translate accompanies, wherein he merely acknowledges being Security for Tilla Naigum Villay, but on being Charged with the above collusive transaction, he admitted the fact, and said that he never should have engaged in the business, or being engaged, have continued in it but from the Intrigues of Vasoodava Villay, having been from the first averse to it, that it was pressed upon him by Vasoodava Villay with some sinister view, & that had he positively rejected it, he should have exposed his Property in the District to the consequences of his (Vasoodava Villay's) revenge, from which he had every thing to apprehend. Translate of the Security Bond alluded

Vide No. 1. to, is also transmitted herewith, and it is in force to answer the deficiency in the Collection of Customs from December last, he having the charge at the beginning of the Year. —

10th In consequence of the apparent deficiency in the Collections of the Circar Lands, the Resumed Pollams and the Customs under Amaunee, we deemed it necessary to put certain questions to

Vide No. 2. Mr Wynch, Copies of which, with his answers, and our Remarks go a separate Number in the Packet.

11th From the Circumstances stated in our Report of the 9th Instant, it may be presumed that the Amildars must have been in a great degree under the Influence, and direction of the late Head Servants — by the Statements A, and B, it will appear that their Charges Collection in the Circar Lands under Amanee have been very high, and disproportionate; besides which the Batta to regular Sepoys &ca furnished to the Amildars since October last, has exceeded 3000 Pagodas, but it is to be observed that this may in some degree be ascribed to local difficulties incident to the Management; As a Protection against Jangar (the Dependance of the late Poligar) a guard of Thirty Sepoys with Native Officers was attached to the Amildar of Pytney, and continued with him for

near

near Six Months.

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12th. With respect to the Circar Lands held in rent, they were let out on a five years lease before Mr Wynch's arrival in the District, two years of which, Fusley 1204 and 1205 have expired — From the accounts of the Village Curnums which there is every reason to believe have been fabricated by the direction, and from a dread of the Renters, in order still to keep the Circar in ignorance of the actual resources of the Country, It would appear that the Gross Payments of the Ryots were for the two Years above mentioned as follow Vizt. in 1204 Fusley Chucks. 6791 more than the amount of the rent, and in 1205 less by Chucks. 502; Contrasting this Statement with the accounts taken from the Curnums of the same Villages for Six successive years under Sied Sahib Vizt. from Fusley 1194 to 1199 both inclusive, there appears the most striking difference taking the average of these years, it is found that the Gross Collections exceeded the rent for Fusl. 1204 above 75 ₽ Cent, and 1205 above 65 ₽ Ce[nt] and it is to be observed that there was

an interval of four years between the two periods during which the Country suffered no Calamity, but such as may have arisen from the oppression of the Renters; and it is further to be remarked that the Collections of the two last of the Six Years in question, considerably exceeded the average above alluded to, Being convinced from this Circumstance as well as from the Information we had obtained, that false accounts were imposed upon us, we resolved to make an experiment of three Principal Villages by actual Measurement, and the Comparative Statement referred to in the margin will evince how much the accounts alluded to, undervalued those Villages, from which an inference may be drawn of the fallacy of the whole, and of the pains taken by the renters to suppress the real value of the Circar Lands — In proof of the Renters (Appagee Pillay's) desire to conceal from our knowledge the Collections made by them from the Villages abovementioned, when he discovered our intention of measuring the Lands, he caused all the Inhabitants

Vide Statement O.

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Inhabitants to desert, lest we should question them in regard to their payments in the same manner as we had done in the Pylney District. -

13th. As Introductory of the Information we shall now proceed to lay before your Lordship, in regard to the former value of this District, we request your perusal of the accompanying Historical account of it commencing with the period of its cession to the Mysore Government from Trichinopoly, and stating the principal Changes, as far as has come to our Knowledge, which progressively took place from that date till last conquered by the Honorable Company's Troops in 1790. -

Historical account

Vide Paper marked 3..

Vide Statement P, Q, R, S, T, and U.

14th. The information above alluded to, will be found in the Statements noted in the Margin; We have been at great pains to Collect it from various sources, and from the Official Stations held by some of the Persons who furnished it, we are disposed to put great reliance on its authenticity - They comprise, and shew in one point of View the Collections made by Bokkee Venket Row, Meer Sahib, and Sied Sahib at differen[t] period[s]

periods and the average annual Collections, and Settlements under the Honorable Company since its last capture in 1790 to these Statements we have annexed the names, and situations of the authorities from whom we have derived our Information.—

15th It appearing from the accounts we have collected that alienations of Lands, and Sayer to a very considerable extent have taken place since the Capture of this District by the Company in 1790. we have formed them into a Statement in order to exhibit them in a distinct point of View, and it is thereby shewn that the Estimated Circar's Share of the Lands amounts annually to Chuck.rs 16,936:4:6 or Star Pagodas 9,677:43:31 and that the loss in the Customs is estimated from Chuck.rs 800 to 1200 or about Star Pagodas 457 to 685 ℔ annum.—

Vide Statement W.

16th We have no hesitation in recom=mending the immediate resumption of these alienations, as having been granted by the Native Servants in public Employ, or by the Renters; and we think it necessary to observe

that

that there are two Persons who have been long resident here, named Comara Pillay and Appagee Pillay (the Father, and Son) possessing an influence in the District that has been very instrumental in causing the alienations above alluded to, as well as in suppressing or secreting from the Knowledge of the Circar the real value of the Country, for it would seem this influence has not been confined to the Circar Lands, but has extended to the Pollams, and we have no doubt, from circumstances which have come before us, that they have been in the habit, particu-larly the Father, Comara Pillay of receiving considerations from the Poligars for under-valuing their Pollams to the Circar, and for being the means of annexing to them, certain Lands and Privileges to which they had no actual right. These Men, we are apprized, have always been forward to offer information in regard to the District, and having by their Influence, and Intrigues among the native Circar Servants, joined to their long

Residence

Residence on the spot, established the reputation of being experienced, and well informed, they have imposed themselves as Men having Claim to Confidence, and, we understand, have in consequence been much resorted to, and it would seem that by means of their Wealth, and authority they have been enabled either to suppress, or corrupt almost every other Channel of information - Under these Circumstances, and their Conduct as renters - that is the Son as the Renter, and the Father, as security - being highly exceptionable, and for which they are now in Confinement; - We are of opinion that they are dangerous Subjects of the Company's Government, and that it would be highly politic to remove them, and their families from this District, apprizing them that they will never be allowed to return to it - With respect to Appagee Pillay holding a Cowle for a five Years rent, two of which only have expired, he has forfeited it from a breach, of his Mutchelca, or public Engagement, not only by alie-nations from the Circar Lands, but by not having granted any Puttahs or Leases to his under

under Renters or Ryots - and having made undue
exactions also, being in arrears on the 13th August on
account of Fusley 1205 a Month after the expiration
of that Fusley Chucrs 7941:6 or Star Pagodas 1533:2:4
being a proportion of 33 1/3 p Cent of His Gross Rent
for the Year in question. -

17th Being upon the subject of alienations,
we shall take occasion in this place to advert to
the Enams granted before, or assumed upon the
Capture of this District by the Company in 1790.
vide Statement W.
By the Statement thereof it will appear that
these amounted to Chucrs 4395:3:- or Star Pagodas
2511:27 - Enams of every description were at once
resumed by Tippo in the year Corodie (1784)
with the Exception only of such as had belonged
to Mahomedans, and small portions to great
Pagodas, or Deostans, perhaps a Sixth or Eighth
of what they enjoyed during the Hindoo Government
some Enams, it is said, were restored by orders to
Aumildars in 1786 and 1787 but in 1789 all were
again resumed, excepting such as had Sunnuds
under the Seal, and Signature of Tippo Sultaun;
even the validity of these might be in some
instances

instances questionable, because if Enams for which grants have been issued, be afterwards resumed, the Enamdars it may be supposed would in some cases retain the original Sunnuds under pretext of their being lost, and avail themselves of such Credentials whenever a subsequent opportunity might occur —

18th This District, however having been under the immediate administration, and Controul of Meer Sahib, and Sied Sahib, who held it more as a Jaghire than as an Aumildary, the above regulations may not have been sent by Tippoo, or at all Events not carried into Effect, and many of the Enams may have been granted by them without reference to Tippo — We therefore submit the Expediency of admitting all Grants or Sunnuds signed by Tippo Meer Sahib, and Sied Sahib and rejecting all others as invalid, but giving to the present incumbents of such inadmissible Enams a subsistence in money during life, & immediately resuming all their Lands on account of the Circar; with the exception, however, of small Portions for great Pagodas, or Dewstans to be marked out under the Inspection

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of the Collector -

19th A Statement of the Rent of the Circar Lands for five Years accompanies this address - Two Years of the Lease expired on the 12th Ultimo and satisfied of the competency of the Renters, from the favorable rate at which they held their farms to pay the dues of the Circar, Mr. Harington required the immediate discharge of their Balances, but without effect; he however, allowed them the indulgence of one Month, but to no purpose, excepting in a few Instances, and he then resolved to resume all the other Rents, and to secure the Grain, and Property of the Individuals on account of the Company - this took place on the 17th Instant, the Gross Balance amounting to Chuckrums 11,063: 6. - or Star Pagodas 6,322: 2: 9 - being about 26 ℔ Cent of the Nett rent for the Year -

Vide Statement E

20th This failure of itself is a breach of their Mutchilca, but they have forfeited their Farms by a still further Breach of their

their Agreements in a very essential part — Viz. having neglected to grant Puttahs or Leases to their under Farmers, or Ryots by which the latter might ascertain the actual demands upon them for the Current Year, thereby reserving to them-selves the option of imposing an arbitrary assessment on the under tenants, to the great oppression of Individuals, and in some Instances Enams have been granted by them, which is also in direct violation of their Mutchelcas — These circumstances we have ascertained from the Official Accounts of the Village Curnums, and we have the Honor to enclose Extract of the Clauses alluded to in the Mutchelca —

Statement X.

21st. Adverting therefore to the Policy of shewing a Marked regard of such inattention to Public engagements, as well as to the increase of Revenue

which

which may be expected after the information now obtained, from a Village Settlement under a vigilant superintendence, We submit the expediency of annulling the Cowles for the remaining Years of the Lease.—

22nd With respect to those Renters above alluded to who paid their Balances before the expiration of the Month, the only difference between them, and the other renters consists in the payment of the dues of the Circar. They have been alike negligent of that part of their Muchilcas, which provided for their granting Puttahs or leases to their undertenants, and Ryots, and from the Complaints which have been made against the principal ones, Mr. Harington has been induced likewise to suspend their authority till further orders.— Your Lordship will therefore judge, whether the above breach of their Public Engagements should be also marked by the entire sequestration of their farms.—

We

23rd We must further add on this Subject that such has been the oppression practised by some of the Renters that many of the Inhabitants we understand, have emigrated from the Circar Lands to settle in the Neighbouring Pollams, where the Poligars having plenty of unoccupied Land, afford them every necessary Encouragement. — The Tanks are moreover in a general State of decay. —

24th Considering it of importance to discover the rates of Assessment, which have obtained in this District; we have procured a detailed Statement of them, of which our President will take charge, being too extensive to accompany this Report, but for the information of your Lordship We have the Honor to transmit an Example, noted in the Margin. —

Vide Statement Y

25th With respect to the Customs, they have diminished considerably in value since Seid Sahib's Government, not only from the abuses in the Management of them

beforementioned

beforementioned, but from the great decline of
Trade consequent of the Roads being infested
with Colleries, or Robbers, of which we
shall hereafter take Special Notice.—
By way of experiments in order to ascertain
what is the computed value of the Customs
(exclusive of the Pollams) at this period,
Mr. Harington proposed to rent them
for the Current Year, and has obtained
offers to the amount of Chuckrums 5266—
or Star Pagodas 3009.6.34. In the
Vide Statement W. 6d. — Statement of alienations your Lordship
will observe a part of the Circar Customs
which has been a further cause of diminution
of this branch of the Revenue since the
Government of Sud Sahib.—
26th We shall now proceed to offer
some remarks regarding the Poligars—
With respect to their present Peishcush, the
Vide Statement U. — Statement already referred to, plainly
evinces that it is very inadequate—
Compared with the Revenue derived from
the

their Pollams in the administration of Berkee Venket Row Meer Sahib and Sied Sahib, and we are not aware of any Calamity or particular cause that has since occurr'd which could in any sensible degree affect their resources. We consider therefore this Statement as a good ground-work upon which to make the future Settlement, and conceiving, at the same time that it is desirable to impress these Poligars with a proper confidence in the Company's Government, that it would be good Policy not to lose the Power of contracting their means of Independence hereafter, when by the improvement of their Countries with the internal parts of which we are wholly unacquainted, and which we have reason to suppose are generally very productive, and may by industry be rendered considerably more so, they might be found to possess too much wealth

for

for the Spirit of Independence, and resistance which we have of late had cause to remark in them; we are of opinion, therefore, that it would be advise-able to make the next Settlement of their Peshcush on a Lease of ten years, at the expiration of which period it is to be presumed that a permanent Settlement may be concluded with a greater probability of its being made adequate than if determined under present Circumstances. –

27th Having taken into consideration the general Information we have [illegible] to collect, [illegible] an Estimate of the Annual Peshcush which it would appear therefrom – Each Poligar is competent to pay on the proposed new Settlement for 10 Years, amounting in the Gross from Chuckrums 49,620 to 65,350, or Star Pagodas 27,355. to 37,342. ℘ Annum; and an Increase on the present Peshcush of from 14 to 28 ℘ Cent – as this Estimate is founded no certain Document it can of course be consi-

Vide Statement Z

may

only as general Information, the correctness or in-
accuracy of which, will be hereafter determined
by the personal Inquiry of the Collector, to whom
it may at all Events serve as a data, and we
think it by no means improbable that from
local Investigation he may find good reason
to vary the amounts, and either to increase, or
decrease the total assessment therein stated —
The principle upon which we have made the
calculation has had in view to allow for each
Poligar entertaining a limited number of
armed Peons, necessary for self defence against
Colleries, and to leave them besides one third of
the computed value of their Pollams —

28th It appears to us of some importance
that a general survey should be made of all the
Pollams, and we submit the expediency of a
Scientific Person being appointed for this purpose,
as soon as one can be conveniently spared from
the official duties — We are induced to this
suggestion, not merely with the view to compute
the extent, and ascertain the general aspect of
each Pollam, but to discover their strongholds

to

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to raze to the Ground every appearance of a Fort or Place capable of Resistance, and to throw open those fastnesses or Places of Subterfuge to which they now resort, by clearing away Roads in the four Principal Directions of at least a hundred feet broad, which may be effected by the Poligars own People, under the directions of the Surveyor, who might be supplied with the necessary Implements for the occasion, this latter Measure we consider as promising to be very conducive towards bringing the Poligars under proper subjection, as it would render them at all times easy of access, at the same time, that another essential benefit would accrue in the comparative less exposure of our Troops to loss of lives in cases of attack, for these Roads having been once cleared it would be the duty of the Collector to take care they were kept in that state —

29th The Proclamation of the Right Honble the Governor in Council dated the 13th June 1795, enjoined in the most pointed terms the reduction of all armed Men in the service of the Poligars, and positively interdicted the Employ of them upon any pretence or whatever — There can be no doubt that these orders have been generally disregarded, and we are fully satisfied from the Inquiries we have made that

until

until an adequate Force is stationed in the District ready to enforce the orders of Government, and to punish with promptitude, and effect every disobedience of them; the Poligars will continue to support an Independence of mind, and Conduct wholly incompatible with good Government; and we are further of opinion that was the decided line above suggested to be observed towards them, several of them would submit to the privation of their Pollams, consequent of their inveterate Habits of Contumacy before the Company's Government would be completely established —

30th. Under this impression, the question occurs, whether it would not be better Policy to try in the first instance if their refractory dispositions may not be regulated by gradual, and temporizing means. To this suggestion we reply that we do not imagine any line of Conduct but such as will evince a prompt, and positive determination on the part of Government to reduce them to Subjection, will produce the desired effect; for tho' Enmity subsists among themselves, they unite in the common cause of supporting a Spirit of Independence in their Pollams, and of resistance to the Company's orders which we are

convinced

convinced nothing but severe Examples will ever Subdue;— When the District was last captured by our Troops in 1790 only four* of them were in possession of their Pollams, Hyder, or Tippoo having found it necessary to resume them; and it would have been fortunate for the Country, as well as the Company had they not been restored by the English Government.— it is certain they have shewn themselves in no respect sensible, or deserving of any particular consideration, on the other hand we are of opinion that no objection occurs to a decisive line of Conduct being observed towards them, either from apprehension of their being able to make any material resistance, or of any future prejudicial consequences resulting from it.—

* Coombay
Yoovacotah
Mambara
&
Sendagoor.—

31st That the determination of Government to enforce, and support their own authority may appear unequivocal, we would recommend in all cases for Contumacy on the part of the Poligar that he should be immediately proscribed, and the Pollam declared sequestered for ever.—

32nd The Troops which we conceive would constitute a force adequate for the purposes abovementioned, should consist of a sufficient Number to allow of from 5 to 8 hundred being detached on

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a short notice (without distressing the Garrison) upon any sudden Emergency, to be accompanied, if necessary, with one, or two Six Pounders properly equipped, for the great object is to make the attack by Surprise, and with a force superior to all possible resistance; the good effects of this prompt, and effectual mode of Proceeding would be many - it would afford the greater Chance of securing the person of the Poligar - it would materially lessen the risk of loss of Lives; and by convincing the Poligars in general of the futility of offering resistance to the Company's authority they would make no preparation for that purpose, and if curtailed of the Power hereafter Stated it might be expected they would gradually reduce their armed Peons as an useless expense, and turn their thoughts entirely to agriculture and domestic Oeconomy. - When the object of having brought them completely under subjection shall have been accomplished, it will rest with Government to reduce the Force above proposed, but we think it would be advisable not any time to make it less than one Battalion. -

33.rd The Cavelly Fees which are held by most of the Poligars, and which are collected by them

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them from the Circar Villages as a Contribution, or assessment, in return for which they are bound to afford Protection to the Persons, and property of the Inhabitants of those Villages, as well as of Travellers passing through them, instead of being the means of producing that Security to Individuals for which they were intended are perverted to the contrary purpose – they enable, at the same time they afford a pretence of the Poligar to support a Number of armed Men, who are employed on any Service his Will may direct, whether in resisting the authority of Government, promoting dissentions, & open violence among themselves, or in committing depredations and Robberies either within the limits of his own Cavilly or upon his Neighbours:– The Collection of these fees being left entirely to the Poligars gives them an authority over the Villages making the Contributions, which in a certain degree render the latter dependant upon them, and the Inhabitants, however they may be oppressed, are awed to silence by the dread they have of the consequences that would follow a detection of any complaints they might make.–

34th. With respect to the Claim advanced by the Poligars to this Privilege, we deem it to be wholly

inadmissible

NB.
By Meer Sahib 2000 armed Peons —
By Sied Sahib 200 Peons at each Station and Guards of Peons and regular Infantry detatched in different parts of the Country —

inadmissible — Under the Governments of Meer Sahib, and Sied Sahib no such privelege was allowed, neither was any abatement made in their Peshcush in consideration of their not enjoying it, but an Establishment was regularly kept up consisting of armed Peons, and disciplined Troops for the express purpose of controling the conduct of the Poligars, as affecting the Circar Lands, and of extending Protection, and Security to the Persons, and Property of the Inhabitants, and it is a well known fact that at that period the Merchant and Traveller might pass from one Extremity of the District to the other without the least impediment, or loss; whereas, now numerous Complaints are daily made of Robberies in every quarter to the great discredit of the English Government, and if an order is in consequence sent to the Poligar, or Cavalgar (Watcher) within whose Cavelly the outrage has been committed, to make restitution of the Property stolen according to the tenor of his obligation, it is treated in most Instances with entire Neglect —

35th. Regarding the Cavelly in the point of view above stated we strongly recommend its abolition, and that the fees be collected by the Company to be formed into a fund, either for supporting an Establishment of Peons to preserve the

the Peace of the District, and to apprehend offenders or to defray the Expense of any other mode which may be adopted for the same purpose.

36th The Measure of resuming these fees would certainly be very offensive to the Poligars who now enjoy, and are very tenacious of them, and there is little doubt but that they would, for a time, continue to keep in their Employ a bandette, who would on the first privation infest in a still greater degree the Roads, and Villages within their present Cavally with the view to evince the Impolicy of depriving them of their Cavalgaries, but if prepared for this Event before the resumption takes place by stationing in situations best adapted for the purpose, either regular Guards of Sepoys, or Armed Peons under an active Person, and if a positive determination is shewn on the part of Government to support the Collectors by an adequate Military Force as before suggested, we are persuaded that only a temporary Inconvenience would be experienced from the opposition of the Poligars, and that in a short time an Evil, at present of great Magnitude, might be effectually removed. —

37th It would very probably have a good effect if part of the Fund proposed to be formed of the Cavally fees was to be appropriated as rewards to Individuals for apprehending persons in the act of plunder, and Robbery. —

these

these should be liberal, to insure the end proposed, and it would,
we conceive be good policy on conviction of the offenders either
to confine them in perpetuity, or to bring them to trial for
their lives, the latter would be most desirable as a few examples
would operate more to deter others from the Commission of like
Crimes than any other expedient that occurs to us.—

38th In the Mutchelcas for the new Settlement
we would recommend to be inserted "that the Claim of the
"Poligars to collect the Cavelly fees is for ever abolished, and
"that if any one belonging to their Pollams should thereafter
"be detected in Plunder, or theft in the Circar Lands they
"would submit to whatever fine might be imposed
"by the Circar; also that if it should be proved that any
"Thieves were at any subsequent period employed in the
"Circar Lands with their sanction, and knowledge they
"would hold themselves to have forfeited their Pollams".—

39th Having procured a Statement
Vide Statement A.A.
of the Cavelly fees we have the Honor to transmit
it a Number in the Packet—The Gross amount
appears to be Chuckrums 7167: 3: 11—or Star Pagodas
4095: 28: 51. ℔ annum—The resumption of these
fees would not of course in any respect diminish
the responsibility of the Poligars for all
outrages committed within their

respective

respective Pollams and from Circums=tances which have come to our knowledge as well as from gene=:ral report, great reform is necessary in their internal Government, which now assumes the exercise of uncountrouled Power over the Lives, and property of their Subjects:- The particular attention of the Collector should be directed to this essential Object, and the Muchilca to be taken from the Poligars should in a special manner limit their Judicial autho=:rity.-

40.th Some of the Poligars, we find, have assumed to themselves the right of collecting Customs without their Pollams, which not having been admitted in any for=:mer Government we recommend that they be immediately resumed, and that in the Co=mutchilca for the new Settlement a clause be inserted entirely annulling this assump=:tion, Indeed, we are of opinion the Poligars in general should be restricted from

the

the Collection of any road Customs whatever, even <u>within</u> their Pollams as it would be impracticable to make them conform to the rates, or Rules which may be deemed expedient for the encouragement of trade.-

41st. It will also be highly necessary to specify in the new muchilca the particular limits of each Pollam, for the present undefined Boundaries are a constant source of mutual complaint on the part of the Poligars, as well as of difficulty to the Collector, who besides being called upon to decide the disputes between the Poligars is continually importuned for Circar Villages, to which they lay claim, tho they already possess some to which they have not the least pretensions.

Vide Statement, b.b. These are particularized in the Statement (b.b.) of the Company's right to these Villages: we do not entertain a doubt, and we submit to your Lordship the propriety of their being resumed on granting the new Cowle.-

There

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42nd There are besides twenty two Villages which in the adjustment of the Boundaries of the Ceded Countries with Tippoo Settled by Captain Macleod in 1793 and reported by him to Government under date the 10th November of that year, were annexed to the Dindigul District as Circar Lands, but which were taken possession of, and have been since held by the Poligar of Veerapachy - The Circar revenue amounting to 200 Verai Chucrums or Star Pagodas 1500 .... ℘ annum Captain Macleod in his address to Government above alluded to, having particularly adverted to this Poligar's pretensions, and having no reason on further inquiry to question the correctness of this Statement, we beg leave to refer your Lordship to the accompanying Extract of his Letter on the Subject. It may be proper to add that these Villages so far from being connected with the Veerapatchee Pollam are separated by a part of another

vide Paper No 4.

Pollam

Pollam to the extent of about ten miles in a strait line, and one excepted join to the Circar Lands; should it therefore appear to your Lordship, as it does to us that the Veerapatchy Poligar has no right to the Villages in question, we recommend that orders be sent to the Collector for immediately resuming them. and perhaps your Lordship may determine to require him to make restitution of the Revenue hitherto collected from them, at the annual valuation above stated. - But should Government on the contrary resolve to continue them annexed to his Pollam, we beg leave to suggest that his Peshcash should be encreased, on the new Settlement in a proportionate ratio - (exclusive of an adequate assessment of his Pollam proper) We however, would rather recommend, under all circumstances, that he should be completely dispossessed of them, his Pollam being already extensive, and it being an object to curtail the Power of the

Poligars

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Poligars in general, whenever a just occasion may afford the opportunity.—

43rd Having remarked upon the general abuses in regard to the Poligars, we beg leave to refer your Lordship to the accompanying draft of a Sunned we have prepared for the new Settlement, and which we have the honor to submit for your Consideration.— whether this, or any other shall be adopted it cannot be too strictly enforced.— The space left for the armed Peons, to be allowed to each Poligar, must be hereafter filled up by the Collector, who will be able to determine from personal investigation the number that will be necessary under local circumstances, for their defence &c against thieves, or Colleries who infest some Parts of their Pollams from the neighbouring Pollams of Tinnevelly, Madura Trichinopoly &ca. and the Nattam Woods.—

vide Paper No. 5.

Draft of Sunnud to Poligars

44th In our Report of the 9th Instant we

we observed, that in order to induce the Poligars to attend upon the Committee at Dinigul, we had adopted from the first, a conciliatory Conduct towards them, which had produced the desired effect, that they might not mis:construe the object of our appointment, it was judged expedient to defer any demands on account of their Peshcush till they had all attended, and from the general opinion we had formed of them on personal Communica:tion, as well as from the confidence they appeared to derive, we entertained no doubt of their ready compliance with the application for the discharge of their arrears which im:mediately followed the attendance of the last Poligar, more especially as they were apprized that their Peshcush for the current year would not be increased: but in this expectation we have been disappointed, for, with few exceptions, they have neglected to pay their Balances, and

and have in other respects evinced that refrac-
-tory disposition, confirmed by our inquiries
to have been habitual, which in the pre-
-ceding Paragraphs we have deemed it our
duty to represent.

45th We have noticed in a former
part of this Report (Paras 3 a 6) the abuses
vide Paras 3 a 6. which have prevailed in the management
of the resumed Pollams. Viz. Pylney, Madoor
Sukkamputty, and Sundayoor. With respect to
the former, should your Lordship determine
from our Report of the 9th Ultimo, that
the Poligar, Velayada Naigue, has forfeited
his right to it, we recommend that the same
be proclaimed in the District, and that it
be declared sequestered for ever; In which
case it would be advisable that the Po-
-ligar should be continued in Confine-
-ment *without* the limits of the Dindigul
Province, in order effectually to destroy
his Influence in the District, which he
would

would otherwise exercise through indirect chan-
-nels, keeping the Inhabitants in constant dread of his future return. - Having had rea-
-son to suspect that an interference of this nature, as well on the part of the late Au-
-muldar Trevangoody, as of the Poligar, has tended very materially to obstruct the arrangements desirable to be established in the Pylney Pollam' now under management. Mr Harington deems it proper to send both of these Persons under a Guard to Trichinopoly, there to be kept in confinement. -

46th The Pollam of Ratiambaddy is dependant upon the Pylney District, which being now under the management of the Company, the Poligar has been summoned to give his Mutchilca for the Current years Peshcush 5006 Chs. He is now at Dindigul for that purpose, and to discharge his arrears for last Fusly, being 300 Chs. -

In

47th In regard to the Pollams of Madoor, & Sukaimputty as the Poligars would come to no accommodation for the discharge of their large arrears Mr. Harington has taken measures for more effectually securing the Revenues on account of the Company, allotting to the Poligars respectively an allowance for the support of themselves and families, and granting them permission to reside in one of the villages within their Pollams but strictly prohibiting the Employ of even one armed Peon - should these precautions fail of effect and the Poligars should still interfere with and obstruct the Collections there will be no alternative but to secure their Persons, and keep them under restraint till the Balances against their Pollams shall have been paid off, and it is a question with us, whether considering the refractory Habits of these People, and the Interest they all have

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in diminishing by every possible means the Collections in their Pollams while under the Companys management in order to prevent a discovery of its real value, or on the other hand to evince what they make a constant Plea, for withholding their Payments - the Poverty of their resources - that it would not be better Policy on all occasions of failure in their Kists in the first instance to put their Persons under restraint, which, at the same time that it would operate as a more severe punishment, and consequently as a stronger incitement to the Poligars in general to be punctual in their Payments, would better provide for the security of the Public Revenue; but should their continuance within the District, tho' under restraint, tend to obstruct the Collections, we are not aware of any objections to their being sent during their suspension, to Trichinopoly, or Madura.

48th Gopia Naigue, late Poligar

of

of Sundayoor, being considerably in arrears, and having afforded no satisfactory reasons for its having accrued, or made any adequate offer for its discharge, there seems no alter:native but to keep his Pollam under Ma:nagement. With respect to the refractory conduct that was ascribed to him, further [th]an with holding his kists, we cannot ascertain that it was well established.—

49th We had it in contemplation to submit the adoption of the same Plan of security for the Company's Revenue in regard to these Poligars as the Board of Revenue, under your Lordship's sanction, have establish-ed in the Northern circars, that is, to divide each District into sixteen Parts, and in the kistbundy to oppose to each kist such proportion thereof as if sequestered, should be fully adequate to produce that amount annually to Government, providing in the Mutchilca, that in case of failure in the

payment

payment of either Kist, the proportion of Country thus allotted shall be resumed for ever. We find, however, on Inquiry, that it would be extremely difficult, if not wholly impractica:ble to carry such a Plan into effect in this District, at least, not in its present state, as the interference of the Poligars in those Lands which by this regulation m[illegible] th[illegible] Pollams would be the source of infinite [illegible] loss of Revenue by the obstruction they would occasion to the Collections; and the number of detached spots in various parts of the Pollams separated from each other, and intersected by the Poligars, giving rise, under any Circumstances, to a complicated and expensive detailed management on the part of the Company. But if these objections did not occur we should recommend as a tem:porary expedient the resumption of the whole Pollam in cases of failure in pay:ments of the Kists, as affording an opportunity

while

while under management of ascertaining their real resources.

50th In consequence of our recommendation of the 26th Ulto your Lordship was pleased to direct a Detachment to proceed against the Poligar of Yerriyadoo, who having fled on the approach of the Troops the Pollam was taken possession of with little difficulty, and a Proclamation having been published, declaring the Poligar to be for ever dispossessed, and the Pollam forfeited to the Hon'ble Company, it from that period formed part of the Circar Lands and will be assessed accordingly. it formerly produced a Nett Revenue of Ch. 1600. - - - - or Star Pagodas 9142.38.46 ⅌ annum but we understand it has since been much on the decline. A Collection h[...] of from Eight to twelve Thousand [...]rums may we think, be expected from it in the present Fesly, and under proper

management

Management it may be reasonably sup[...]
will attain its former Value in three or [...]
years.-

51st. We take occasion in this Pla[ce]
to mention that Appagee Gounden, Poligar
of Combay, made no opposition after his
Evidence given before the Committee, to the
Village of Hanamuntapully being taken
possession of on the part of the Company,
and the Collections he made from it for
last Fusly, as appeared by the Village Cur-
-nums accounts - 6 Chuc.ms 1277. 3.- or St Pag.s
729. 39. 69. have been paid into the Company's
Treasury.-

52nd. Our Report of the 9th Instant
fully exhibited the baneful Effects of
Dubash Intrigues, which, as regarded the
Poligars, appeared to have been chiefly con-
-ducted through the Medium of the Vakeels,
and it is observable, that in order to give
the latter an interest in their success 10.

The

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℘Cent of all Sums obtained from the Poligar under the denomination of "Durbar Kherch" or Presents would seem to have been allotted to them (the Vakeels) generally or in some particular instances for their own emolument. This we should imagine a sufficient objection to Persons of this description being allowed to attend at the Huzoor or Collectors place of residence as the representatives of the Poligars, but it appears to us a practice the more inadmissible as it attaches to the Poligars themselves a greater degree of consequence than we conceive it politic to allow them.- We therefore recommend that the attendance of any person on the part of the Poligar in the capacity of a Vakeel, or under any other denomination upon the Collector be positively prohibited, and that there shall be no intermediate Channel of Communication between the Collector and Poligars, but by means of Common Peons or Hircarrahs.

Hircarrahs who can at all times convey written orders & representations, and we would further recommend to the Collector to avoid employing any person coming under the description of a Dubash, for such is the impression the Poligars have received of this class of People that we are well assured they will never feel a proper confidence while any intermediate agency exists between them, (the Poligars) and the Collector, and as we are of opinion that their occasional personal attendance upon the Collector may tend to familiarize them with the English Government we submit the expediency of their being required to attend once a year at Dindigul. We do not mean that they should be all summoned together, or at any one particular period, but that the Collector should be desired to send for them occasionally using his discretion as to summoning more than one at a time, but not to allow

above

above an interval of about twelve months to
elapse between their attendance respectively.—

53rd The Collector's attention should
be also particularly directed to the very per:
nicious Influence exercised by the Predaunies,
or ministers over many of the Poligars. these
Head Servants have in most instances the
entire ascendancy over their masters, to whose
wants, and Excesses of every description they
studiously administer, and having by this
means established an unlimited confidence,
the Poligars are kept in almost entire
ignorance of the affairs of their Districts,
indulging themselves in perfect Indolence,
whilst the Predaunies assume a sway over
the Country which is paramount to abso:
lute authority.— We are aware that it might
be considered too harsh a measure to pre:
clude the Poligars from the Privilege of
appointing their ministerial Servants, but
we conceive that Government may justly
assert

assert a right to insist upon the dismission
of any such Servants, should it be proved,
or ascertained to the satisfaction of the Com:
:pany's representative on the Spot, that they
had been instrumental, either by influenc:
:ing the Poligars, or otherwise, in occasioning
a violation of the Public Engagements, or
that their conduct was oppressive to the
Inhabitants, or in any respect subversive
of the Peace, and good Government of the
Country - These people find it their Interest
also to obstruct the Education of all minors
with the view of more effectually retaining
the future conduct of the Pollams within
their own Power:- This is a circumstance
which is also well deserving of the Collect.
special attention.-

54th The abuses above remarked
have already come under the serious consid
:ration of the Board of Revenue, who have
also issued the most positive orders for
preventing

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preventing the intermediate agency of Soucars, through whom the Poligars have been accus:tomed to pay their Kists. - The objections to this mode of payment are many and obvious, but that of the most consequence is the Chan:nel which it opens to Loans in the Country at an exorbitant Interest, which must ever be followed by the most destructive Effects to the Poligars. The Collector therefore cannot be too deligent in removing this Evil, which he may not however, be able to effect im:mediately; but when he has established th[e] direct Communication with the Poligar[s] before suggested, and the Kists being adapted to the productive seasons of the year, so as to render an anticipation of the Reve:nue unnecessary, he will find no diffi:culty, it is to be presumed, in convincing them of the Oeconomy, and good Policy of sending the Payments on account of the Peshcush immediately from their Pollams

to

to the Company's Treasury, and receiving in turn regular receipts for the amount.—

55th. The Variety of Coins in circulati[on] in this District is not only a source of diff[i]-culty to the Collector, but affords a wide[r] field for the abuses of Shroffs. Some reg[u]-lations in this respect seem particularly necessary as well to obviate loss to the Com-pany by the Exchange, as to prevent the Renters, and Poligars from also incurring loss. for the Shroffs make their advantag[e] of both. all Settlements of Revenue on the part of the Company are made in Colly Chucrums, which is merely a Computation not a Coin, the actual currency of the Di[s]-trict is the Colly Fanam, ten of which a[re] computed a Chucrum, but the Star Pagoda, Porto Novo Pagoda, and Pondicherry Rupee (besides other Coins) are also in circulati[on]. To these we would recommend all payme[nts] on account of the Company should be confin[ed]

and

53 A

and that a table of Exchange calculated upon a principle to save the Public Revenue from a loss, and fixing the relative Value of the Cally fanam to each of the other coins should be prepared, and considered as the Standard by which all Payments should be received from the Poligars, Renters &ca. Having made the Calculation we have the Honor to submit the Table proposed: and it will be proper that all receipts to be granted for public Payments should specify the Coins in which they are made, and at what rates, in order to s... that they are conformable to the Standard.

Statement No 6.

56th. The want of Copper Currency is very much felt in this District. We beg leave therefore to suggest the expediency of throwing a quantity of Cash into Circulation as soon as possible - whether it would be most Economical to coin them at the Presidency, fowarding them by sea to Negapatam, or to send the Copper, and

have

have them coined here we cannot determine; -

The Expense that would attend the Coinage at this Place we understand would be as follows

Statement No. 7. Viz. One Toolum is the weight of 725 Rupees.

To coin this quantity of Copper into Cash the Charges would amount to St. Pagoda 1. 2. 7/4. (fs. mc.)

57th. We have procured for your

Statement C.C. Lordship's information a List of the Weavers in this District, and if it was made an object we are of opinion the numbers might be increased, and the Manufactures adapted for the Company's Investment. The Distance of Transportation of the Sea Coast, at Tondy is about 90 miles from Dindigul. -

58th. In the 44th Para. of our address of the 9th Instant we promised a future report, in compliance with your Lordship's orders regarding the expenditure of the Sums which had been charged for Tank repairs, but we have found it impracticable, from part of the work having been

washed

washed away & part being yet in progress to
ascertain the actual disbursements of the Sum
for the purposes intended: however, from
the Information we have received of the wo
executed we apprehend that if there has be
any misapplication, it must have been ve
inconsiderable.-

59th. Besides the several accounts al
:ready referred to, we have the honor to tran
:mit for your Lordship's further Informati

Vide Statements
D.D. & E.E.

the Statements noted in the margin, which
come under the following Heads - Vizt.-
The Collections from the Pylney District in
Fussily 1195 or A.D. 1785/86 when sequester
under Tippoo's Government, & in Fussilys 120
& 1204 - or A.D. 1792/93 & 1794/95 - by
the Poligar, after his restoration by the
Hon'ble Company as taken from the Villag
Curnums.-
An account of Enams in the Pylney District,
distinguishing those allowed under the
mysore

Mysore Government from such as appear to have been alienated since the country has come under the Honble Company.-

60th.- From the inquiries we have made it would appear of essential consequence in a Commercial point of View that the communication between this District & the Malabar Coast should be opened in such manner as to render the Passage easy & safe.- this we are informed may be effected without much difficulty by the Employment of Pioneers, or Coolies to clear the road about a hundred feet in breath the distance is computed to be from thirty to forty miles- Passengers even now go to & fro - occasionally & it is reported that there are but few obstacles to the road being made very tolerable which a comparative inconsiderable Expense would remove - & there is reason to hope from the Information given us that it may be rendered even passable for

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for wheel Carriage except in the rainy season when the rivers are full. - For the convenience & accommodation of Travellers it would be found expedient to Erect three or four good Choultries at proper distances, but if we are rightly informed this, & any other Expense necessary to the accomplishment of so desirable an object would be amply repaid in the course of a short time by the Increase of Commerce, if not by further political advantages. - if the intercourse between the two Coasts was once established mutual Interest would support its continuance & by keeping the road frequented, all the present alarm & difficulties might be expected to subside, under these Circumstances we submit to your Lordship the expediency of appointing some proper Person to make the Survey, & to report on the feasibility of the measure, probable Expense that would attend its Execution & the advantages that might be expected.

expected to result from it.

61st. When we despatched our address of the 9th Instant we expected that this report would have followed in a few days, but from unavoidable causes, & a desire to render it complete, it has been delayed to this date.

62nd. We have pleasure in expressing our perfect approbation of the Conduct of our Secretary, Mr George Read, whose assistance, also as Malabar Translator, will have appeared in the Numerous Papers contained in the appendix to our Report of the 9th Instant - and we have been much indebted to Mr Stodart for the ready aid he has afforded us in the progress of our Inquiry.

Dindigul }
1st August 1796 }

We have the honor to be with respect
My Lord,
Your obedient & humble Servants
(Signed) William Harington
William Macleod

Ex.d R.H. Lathom

A true Copy
Geo. Stratton

30

Extract from the minutes of Consultation in Revenue Department of Government dated 23.d December 1796, upon the report of the Dindigul Committee dated 31.st August last, respecting the Revenue of that District

1st & 6 Fallacy of the account and concealment of the Revenue collected in Pylney &ca

The Board approve the refer which the Board of Revenue have made to accountant for a comparison between the acco of Mr. Wynch and the Statements transmitted by the Dindigul Committee, and it is resolved to desire that the Board of Revenue in reporting upon this Comparison will state whether Mr. Wy appears to have been sensible of, or to have take any means for defeating this fabrication of accounts, and embezzlement of Revenue which appear by the Report of the Committee to have been obnoxious to detection upon very slight enquiry —

...st
...ses in the Customs
...d resumed pollems

The Board upon a serious perusal

of these paragraphs as well as the separate
remarks of the Committee upon the questions put
by them to Mr. Wynch, see much reason for dis=
=satisfaction; but, as this part of Mr. Wynch's Condu
is more connected with the immediate object of
the appointment of the Committee Resolved that
the ultimate decision upon it be postponed until
the whole subject may come under the conside=
=ration of the Board —

The Board cannot however refrain
from expressing their surprise at the represen=
=tation made to them by Mr. Wynch in regard
to the Village of Amapully, which instead of
being a large district (according to Mr. Wynch)
comprising one fifth of the Pylney pollam, is
(according to the report of the Committee a
small Village of the average value of 565
Chuckrums ℘ annum, because the misrepresen
=tation of Mr. Wynch had defeated the wish and
intention of the Board to have rewarded the
services rendered by Lingum Monigar; Reso

there-

31 61

therefore to direct that the Village of Amny[illegible] be granted on a lease of twenty Years to Li[illegible] Moonigar at the annual Rent of four hun[illegible] Chuckrums —

13 & 14. History of the Pollams and Statements of their Revenue —

The Board observe with par[illegible] satisfaction the pains bestowed by the Com[illegible] in the acquisition of useful Knowledge, w[illegible] must necessarily tend to facilitate the arrang=ment of the District under the Assistant Col[illegible]

Lands alienated since the Company's Conquest

The Board can readily concei[illegible] that much abuse has been practised in the Di[illegible] of Dindigul; and entirely acquiesce in the recommendation of the Committee for the resumption of all alienations, which have be[illegible] made since the province was conquered by the Company; but in a reform of this delicate nature, it will be necessary for the Assistant Collector to proceed with great caution, and circumspection. Resolved therefore to direct that his enquiries may not extend to any period antecedent to the conquest of Dindig[illegible]

and that no Resumption be finally made until Reference shall have been made to the Board of Revenue, and the authority of Government obtained —

[Exp]ulsion of Commara[pilla and] Appagapilla

From a full conviction of the danger, and inconvenience which may be apprehended from such Characters as Comarapilla and his Son Appagee Pilla, and in consideration of the corrupt influence and intrigue, which they appear by the report of the Committee to have actually put in Motion; the Board acquiesce in the Recommendation for their expulsion from the province of Dindigul; Resolved therefore to direct that the Assistant Collector do require them to remove themselves, their families and effects, within three months from his notification of this order, which is to be made in writing —

17 & 18 Resumption of Enams

The Board are of Opinion that every Enamdar, who was in actual legal possession at the time when the province was

was subjected to the Company's authority, should be left to the free enjoyment of his Enam; and that such of the present incumbents, as may be ejected upon this principle, should be supported for life by Rozenah from the Collector's Cutchery. Resolved, therefore, to desire that the Board of Revenue will carry this resolution into effect.

19 @ 23 Sequestration of leases for the Circar Lands

The failure, which the Committee have reported in the Payment of a considerable part of the Rents for the Circar lands, would be ample reason for the sequestration of farms under that description; but as the Board must always consider this an object secondary to the introduction of a permanent system of improvement; Resolved that their neglect to grant Puttahs to the Cultivators, their unauthorized grants of Enams, and inattention to the state of the Tanks be considered the principal ground, on which to dispossess the present renters of their leases. Agreed therefore to direct, that the measure be carried into immediate effect, in order to conclusion of a settlement

Settlement by Village Rents.—

Rate of Assessment

The Committee have not reported the authority or principle upon which the rates of Assessment Collected by them in detail have been established; but as the Board of Revenue consider it an useful collection, they will of course apply it in the extent it may deserve to their consideration of the Settlement, which may hereafter be recommended by the Assistant Collector.—

renting the Customs

The Board Consent that the Customs should continue under Rent for the Current Year; but considering the numerous and heavy abuses which have prevailed throughout this Province; the Board are of Opinion that the reformation of the Customs may be produced, and their Value ascertained with more safety and facility, upon the whole same general principle of aumany management laid down by the Board of Revenue, than upon a System of Rent: Resolved therefore to direct that, if at the expiration of the Current Year the

33 65

the detailed collection of the Customs should be found to interfere with the more material duties of the Aumildar, the Customs be put under Aumany upon a separate Establishment—

& 27 Settlement with the Poligars—

Considering the incomplete state of information respecting the Poligars, which made it necessary for Mr. Harington to conclude a Settlement with them upon the terms of the preceding Year; and the short period during which the present Collector has been able to apply himself to the Subject, the Board are of opinion that there are not grounds for a ten Years Settlement. Resolved therefore to direct that as soon as the present Cowles expire Mr. Hurdis may be authorized to conclude a Settlement with the Poligars for three years—

Surveying and clearing the pollams

The Board have already acquiesced in the recommendation of the Board of Revenue for a Survey of the Pollams; and they will be happy to avail themselves of all the means in their power for clearing and forming the Roads, but

as

as the Committee suggest, that this reform may be effected by the Poligars themselves under the superintendence of the Collector, it will be for him to represent in what manner the authority and assistance of Government can be made most conducive to his Success.—

29 @ 32 Stationing of Troops.

A proper distribution of the Troops under this Government for the support of its authority, and the execution of its orders must always be an Object of unquestionable importance; and the Board are aware how much their attention to this Subject is requi[red] throughout the Poligar Countries: it is their wish therefore to adopt the suggestion of the Committee in regard to the stationing a force in Dindigul, as far as Circumstances may permit, but from the judicious and successful manner, in which the present Collector has sequestered the pollam of Deoanaputty, they are less inclined to apprehend, that inveteracy of opposition, which the Committee ascribe to the

Poligars

Poligars –

34 67

(Ab)ol. abolition of Cavelly fees –

The Board are of Opinion that the suggestion of the Committee for the entire & immediate abolition of the cavelly fees is objectionable from the extreme difficulty of carrying it into complete effect; and to attempt without the means of enforcing such an arrangement must be attended with consequences extremely detrimental to the province – The present demand for Troops on Service renders it impossible to station a sufficient body of Regulars; and the Board are diffident of the ability or Willingness of a Corps of sibbendy raised upon the Spot to check the licentiousness of the Poligars –

This indeed the Board ascribe to the loose and irregular administration which has prevailed in that District; and they are therefore sanguine that a System of decision and integrity will pave the way to Reform with more facility than an entire deprivation of

the

the cavelly fees. For these reasons the Board approve the reference which the Board of Revenue have made upon this Subject to the Collector; and they shall be happy if Mr. Dundas should be able to effect such an arrangement as the Board of Revenue have proposed for the Collection of the Cavelly fees by the Circar, or such as have been executed in the Guntoor Circar with the Commanawar & Chericowars for the prevention of robberies and inroads into the Government Lands.

41 Demarcation of the pollams and resumption of unauthorized lands

The Board approve the Instructions of the Board of Revenue to the Collector for connecting with his Survey of the province the demarcation of the Pollams; but they are doubtful as to the resumption of the Villages included in the Statement CC of the Committee, since consistency with the principles laid down by the Board in regard to the Poligars of the Jageer requires more evidence of a defective title than the opinion of a Collector; and as yet they

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they have no authority for the resumption of the[illegible] than the opinion of the Committee —

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Resolved that the Veerapatchee Poligar be called upon to relinquish the twenty two Villages, of which he possessed himself after the adjustment of the boundaries of the Ceded Districts; and that he be warned according to the recommendation of the Board of Revenue of the determination of the Board to sequester his whole pollam for ever in case of resistance

As the Poligar does not appear to have been called upon for a Restoration of the Villages in question, Resolved that no Demand shall be made for the revenue, which may have been collected by him —

45 & 46 Forfeiture of the Pylney Pollam

Upon a full Consideration of the report from the Committee under date 9th July last Resolved that the pollam of Pylney is forfeited for ever by the Conduct of the late Poligar, & that this resolution be published without delay throughout the province of Dindigul —

In

In regard to the Poligar, himself the Board Observe that he has already been removed into confinement at Trichinopoly —

47 @ 50 mode of sequestering pollams

Having in the preceding part of these Minutes, and to their conviction, ascribed the irregularities of the Poligars to the inefficiency of the administration at Dindegul; the Board are willing to hope that a change of measures in that province will supersede the necessity of laying down a system of resumption; but should the Poligars ever continue insensible of the advantages they may enjoy under an honorable, but decisive management; every instance must form a distinct subject of deliberation; and the Board thinks it more advis-able for the present, at least to reserve every case of this kind for their Consideration with all its attendant circumstances, than to lay down any fixed Plan of proceeding in cases that admit much dissimilarity. —

52 @ 54
Intermediate agency between the Poligars and Collector to be restrained —

The Observations of the Committee contained

26 71

contained in these Paragraphs of their report, the Board consider very judicious. - In regard to the intermediates, hitherto employed by the Poligars the Board are of opinion that this evil may be remedied in the manner pointed out by the Board of Revenue by provisions in the new sunnuds and in respect to the Dubashes of Collectors; the Board are hopeful that this defect in the Company's management is fast on the decline, since the liberal allowance for Moonshees granted by the Court of Directors must have furnished the Assistant Collectors with the means of acquiring the native Languages, and since the junior part of the Servants ought to have been encouraged to the Study of the Languages by the resolution of the Board, which was announced to them on the 4th of October 1794, and to which it is their unequivocal intention to adhere, of not promoting any Assistant in the Revenue Department without this indispensable qualifi-

=cation

qualification –

56 Coining of Cash for Dindigul –

Ordered that the Assay Master do immediately coin 300,000 Cash for the use of the Dindigul District, and that the Board of Trade be ordered to supply with a sufficient quantity of Copper –

60 Communication between Dindigul and the Malabar Coast –

The Board will take this Subject into consideration at a future Opportunity –

The Board are happy to observe the satisfaction expressed by the Board of Revenue at this Report; and having themselves already expressed their approbation of the laborious Zeal and diligent attention shewn by the Committee to this inquiry, it only remains for the Board to record the gratification they feel in having selected for this Duty Gentlemen so adequate to the execution of it –

In taking into consideration the recommendation contained in the 15 Paragraph of Mr. Harington's separate letter for sequestering the Pollams of Golep Naig and Ponjarie Naig

the

the Board are sensible of the reprehensible Conduct of those Poligars, but are desirous for the reasons already given that the Poligars of this Province should be proceeded against with great indulgence.

The subsequent conduct of Poogainy naig indeed has left the Board no alternative, but in respect to Golup naig if he should not have been made sensible since the late change of management in the District of the impropriety and rashness of his proceedings, of which the Board of Revenue will inform themselves from Mr. Hurdis; Resolved that a period not less than a Month be fixed for the discharge of his arrears, that the Assistant Collector do warn him in the most effectual manner in his power of the ruin he may be about to incur, and that in the event of failure after this serious exhortation the Collector be authorized to resume his pollam for ever —

With respect to the recommendation contained in Mr. Harington's 14th Paragraph for the

the dispossession of Condia Naig; The Board wait the further Report of Mr. Hurdis in the hope that this Polegar also may have been made more sensible of his Duty by the late change of administration at Dindigul; but if he should still have persevered in the irregularities described by Mr. Harington, the Board will have no hesitation in inflicting the punishment on which that Gentleman has recommended –

The Board Consider the mode adopted by the present Collector as extremely judicious in the sequestration of Davanpruty, and would have it practised upon all occasions when it may promise to be accomplished without serious opposition –

A true Extract

(signed) A. Falconar

Depy. Secry.

A true Copy

Geo Wratton

W. In.

Exd. R.H. Lathom

Ext. from the Proceedings of the Bd. in Con. 14 Nov. on the Dindigul Committee's Report of the 31st. August 1796 — 75

In compliance with the Orders of the Right Honble the Governor in Council the Board proceed to take into immediate Consideration the Report of the Committee regarding the Revenues of the Dindigul District —

Dom. Paras: 1 @ 12 Ordered that the Statements noted in the 2nd. Paragraph be referred to the accountant for the purpose of being compared with the Official accounts transmitted by Mr. Wynch. —

Mr. Harington reports for the information of the Board that measures were taken for Collecting the outstanding Balances, which appeared by the Accounts referred to in the 3rd. Paragraph, and that there is every Reason to believe they will prove effectual. —

12 The information stated in this Paragraph and Statements referred to, fully prove the fallacy of the Curnums accounts therein noted, as well as the intentional fabrication of them by the

the Renters to conceal from the knowledge of the Circar the actual produce of the Villages, a Circumstance of which the Board in their proceedings of the 25th August 1794 expressed their strong belief —

13 The Historical Memoranda furnished by the Committee the Board consider a very useful and intelligent Document, shewing the nature of the Government to which the Poligars have been accustomed for a long series of years and the fluctuations to which they have been subject from their apparent rooted habits of Contumacy; which however, it must be confessed may originally have grown out of oppression, and no doubt have been subsequently encouraged by the frequent Change of Masters —

14 The Statements referred to in this Paragraph contain information of the resources of the District which cannot fail to be highly useful in determining the future Revenue to be derived from it by the Company, and hold out the prospect of a considerable Increase — Agree to

to Recommend them to the particular attention of the acting Collector –

15 & 16 – Resolved to recommend to Government the immediate resumption of the alienations alluded to in these Paragraphs as well as the adoption of the Measure proposed by the committee in regard to Comara Pillay, and Appajee Pillay, which under the circumstances stated of the baneful influence possessed by these men in the Country, appears to the Board highly politic, and necessary –

[illegible] 18 The Board concur in the Principle suggested by the committee for determining the Validity of Titles to Enams noted in these Paragraphs, as well as in regard to the Holders of those which may be rejected; resolved to recommend to Government that the necessary Instructions be sent to the Acting Collector –

19 to 24 The Board have no hesitation in offering it as their decided opinion, for the Reasons stated by the Committee in these Paragraphs, that the whole of the Farms alluded to should be sequestered, and the Cowles cancelled – resolved therefore to recommend this measure to Govern-
= ment

Government and that the acting Collector be instructed to proceed in forming a Settlement with the Head Inhabitants for the Current year's Revenue with the least possible delay —

24. The information herein noted Relative to the Rates of Assessment the Board consider very important, as it affords satisfactory grounds for correcting many abuses inseparable from an Arbitrary Assessment of the Lands, and Inhabitants, which appears to have obtained in the Dindigul District to the great oppression of the Ryot, and no less to the Injury of the Public Revenue —

25. The Board, for the reasons assigned by Mr. Harington in his Separate Report, approve of the Experiment made in Renting the Customs for the Current Year under the precaution taken by him, of preparing Tables of Rates for General Information.— The Rent considerably exceeds their net produce under Aumanee about 35 pr. Cent — Agreed to desire the acting Collector to order a Table to be put up at Each Chokee, notifying at the foot thereof, that immediate attention will paid

paid to Complaints of any undue demands, or exactions on the part of the Renters —

26 In their proceedings of the 18th December 1794 the Board Recommended a fixed Summa to be Assessed on the Poligars of Chuckrums 91.507: Observing, tho' not the utmost Revenue which might perhaps be expected with justice to the company, yet considering their habits, their frontier Situation & the determination of Government to confine them strictly within the limits of their Pollams, and to punish every aggression, that it might be good Policy to allow them ample means of comfortable Subsistence to preclude every Shadow of excuse for persevering in their depredations; but with the information now before them, The Board acquiesced in the reasoning herein (Para 26) advanced by the Committee, for they certainly can have no cause to expect a Sudden Change in the dispositions, and Conduct of these men when it appears

they

they have so long persevered in Acts of insubor=
=dination, notwithstanding their contumacy—
has frequently drawn upon themselves exemplary
punishment from the several Powers under
which they have been placed; — Agreed therefore
to recommend to Government that the next
Settlement with the Poligars shall be for
ten years, and the Board trust that the complete
Information which they have now every rea=
=son to conclude will be acquired in that
Interval, and the effects which may be expected
to be produced by Establishing a defined, and
firm authority over them, will enable —
Government either to declare it permanent,
or to fix a more adequate Jumma in perpetuity.

Para 27. Resolved that the Statement —
referred to in this Paragraph be furnished to the
acting Collector to aid his Judgment in —
forming the proposed new Settlement —

28 The Board have anticipated the
Committees Suggestion in regard to a General
Survey —

Survey a measure acquiesced in by Government in their Letter of the September last. The further measures proposed by them for destroying the strong holds of the Poligars, and cutting Roads thro' their fastnesses the Board entirely approve, as they cannot fail of conducing to bring the Poligars under proper Subjection - it is Agreed therefore strongly to recommend to Government the adoption of all the Committee's Suggestions submitted in this Paragraph -

17th Sept.
22. Sept.

29@33 The Board are so fully impressed with the Sentiments expressed by the committee in these Paragraphs that they cannot hesitate in submitting to the Right Honble the Governor in Council the apparent necessary Policy of stationing an adequate Force at Dindigul for the purposes mentioned, as the most likely means of preventing the necessity of resorting to co-ercion, and of firmly establishing the civil authority: - it is in consequence resolved to solicit his Lordship's particular attention to this Subject -

Subject –

33 to 40 The propositions submitted in these Paragraphs – the abolition of the Cavelly Fees, and the measures to be followed in case of it's adoption the Board consider very important to the future peace, and prosperity of the Country – It is evident that the power of collecting Fees in the Circar Lands must give to the Polegars an Arbitrary autho=rity over the Inhabitants, and the Board entirely concur in Opinion with the committee, until that is abolished, they must be exposed to Continual, and indefinite Extortion; but, o of this Privilege the Polegars are more or jealous than any other. It appears to the Board a very serious consideration, the means to be adopted for protecting the property of the Villages. – Orders or Regulations framed, with a view to prevent the Polegars from committing, or inciting depredations within the Circar Lands, in the event of the exclusive resumption of the Fees by Government it is to be apprehended would be of little avail

in

42

in curbing their inroads, which might be conducted with a Secrecy to elude the most vigilant Sebbendy, and which they would impute to the Colleries without much probability of detection. - They would ever consider themselves deprived of a right which by thus persevering in disturbing the Tranquility of the Inhabitants, they would hope to regain, and in War, when the Country is less protected, they would not fail to indemnify themselves for the privation, and consider the Circar Lands fair Plunder. - At all events a heavy expense for Sebbendy must be incurred by Government unless their interests, and those of the Circar, and Inhabitants can in some way be combined; this appears to the Board very desirable Provided at the same time, their immediate interference with, and Controul over the Circar Inhabitants could be completely cut off. - It appears to the Board therefore worthy of consideration whether both might not be effected were the Circar to collect the Cavelly fees, excluding entirely the Poligars from all manner

of

of interference therewith, - and to pay the Poligars directly from the publick Treasury an annual Sum as Watchers, equal to the Net amount actually received on an average of the 5 past years, holding them responsible for every Robbery committed in the Villages within the range of their respective Cavelly, and their Collams to be the forfeit of Non-Payment; - The Circar would indeed by this means have security for eventual losses to a certain amount in its own hands; if none should have occurred the fees collected or any part of them which might remain after indemnifying Individuals for any Losses ought not to be credited in part payment of Peshcush - but actually paid to them at the close of the year as pay for keeping up the Watching Establishment.

Mr. Harington, expresses himself apprehensive that the Poligars being allowed to maintain Peons in the Circar Villages, tho' they are precluded from collecting the fees, will employ those Peons to make exactions, and depredations

depredations, and thereby defeat the desireable object of preventing their interference with, and con-troul over the Inhabitants. The Board however con-- they have in this case only a Choice of evils and that must be considered the lesser which insure restoration of the Property in case of exaction, or for-feiture of the Cowlam of the party whose promise it was to protect in the event of Refusal; such being the certain consequence of irregular Conduc on the part of the Peons, the Poligar it is reaso-nable to Suppose will be particularly careful to prevent it.- but this Subject does not call for immediate decision as the period for carrying any Plan which may be determined upon into effect will not arrive until the beginning of the next Fussily, when the new Settlement is to take effect, it is therefore Agreed to Recommend these, & the suggestions of the Committee to the Acting Collector's particular consideration with directions to submit his opinion thereon, and any improvement that may occur to him.—

The

40 The Board consider the right of levying customs inherent in the Circar, and certainly adopt the opinion of the Committee that the Poligars in general should be restricted from the collection of any Road duties whatever; the loss of Revenue which they might sustain from such restriction would be very inconsiderable (abating unjust exactions) but in consideration of the permission heretofore enjoyed this might be provided for in the new Settlement, & Government either retain the Collections in it's own hands, or abolish them entirely.—

41 To define the Boundaries of each Pollam for the purpose of being so Specified in the new Muchelka, as proposed by the Committee, appears the only means of obviating disputes—Agreed therefore to direct the acting Collector's attention to this object in proceeding with the Survey, & to recommend to Government the resumption,

on

on granting the new Cowles of the Villages reported by the Committee to have been alienated to the Poligars from the Circar Lands; to admit their being retained on paying a proportionate additional peshcush would only tend to encourage further Assumptions—

42 Resolved to recommend to Government, under the Circumstances explained in this Para, that the Villages in question be immediately resumed from the Veerapatchy Poligar; & as Mr. Harington gives reason to suppose the Poligar may be inclined to resist the measure, from his well known refractory disposition, having formerly possessed himself of these Villages by force, and subsequently contested the resumption of them by the Mysore Government, it is further Agreed to recommend that He be forewarned, should any opposition be made on his part to the execution of the orders of Government, or if he should in any respect interfere in those Villages after they have been

been taken possession of on account of the Company that the forfeiture, and prevation of his Pollam forever will be the certain consequence –

With respect to requiring from the Poligar restitution of the Revenue already collected from those Villages, as it does not appear that he has been called upon at any period since their assumtion in 1793 (with which the Board were unacquainted) to deliver them up, it becomes a question, which rests with the Right Honble the Governor in Council to determine:– The Board under the above Circumstances are inclined to think th[at] it would be advisable to relinquish it and only to resume the Villages –

43 Agreed that the consideration of the proposed new Summed for the Poligars, which in general appears well adapted, do lie over for the present; and that it be sen[t] in the interim to the acting Collector with instructions to ascertain the lemitted num[ber]

of

45 89

of armed Peons to be allowed to each Poligar for the purposes pointed out by the Committee, as well as to state any improvements which his Local inquiries into the actual state of the Pollams may suggest.

45 & 46 Agreed to request to be informed of the Resolution of Government relative to the late Poligar of Pylney - whether he is considered to have forfeited his Right to that Pollam - in which case there would not seem to be any doubt of the Policy of the Measures suggested by the Committee in regard to this District.

Rattiaumbaddy

Mr. Harington has reported to the Board that the Poligar of Rattiaumbaddy discharged his arrears for last Fusly, and having given his muchelka for the current year's Revenue, that a Sunned, according to the prescribed Form, was issued to him.

47 & 50 The Board concur in the general reasoning contained in these Paras. as the

the same time, however, they must observe that from the Instances which have occurred of resumed Pollams kept under management on account of the unsatisfied demands of the Circar, there seems but little prospect of this expedient answering the purposes of either good Government, or the Company's pecuniary Interests.— This unsatisfactory result of the experience hitherto obtained may be in some degree ascribed to an inefficient management in the Districts alluded to, yet the Board are led to believe from Mr. Harington's explanations that the principal cause of failure is the existence of a divided authority occasioned by the secret Influence of the Poligar operating against the measures of the Collector, & that notwithstanding he might be put under restraint, such is the nature of the Poligar Government that the apprehension or expectation of his return, if only dispossessed pro tempore, keeps the Inhabitants in a

state

state of fearful suspence, & renders them
disinclined to submit to any other authority
lest they should thereby incur his resentment;
thus the Cultivation is in part neglected — the
Ryots emigrate either to reside under a more
settled Government or at the Instigation of the
Poligar, — who there is reason to suppose even
finds means to secure for his own uses a part of
the reduced produce: this has been exemplified
in the indirect interference of the late Poligar
of Pyluey, tho' in confinement on the rock at
Dindigul near 40 miles distant and Mr. Haring
further points out a stronger Instance, in the
late Luckia Naigue, one of the Neighbouring Poligars
who, tho' Confined at Trichinopoly about the distance
of 25 miles found means by the aid of his Partizans
to preserve such an authority in his Pollam
as to be still regarded the Poligar: this would
seem to suggest the absolute necessity of a more
Decided line of conduct towards men, over
whom, no partial measures appear adequate
to the Establishment of an efficient Government

thus

thus circumstanced the Board conceive there is the choice of only two alternatives either decidedly to follow up the penalty inserted in the 16.th Article of the new Summud which annexes to failure in engagements the forfeiture of the Pollam to themselves, and their heirs, forever proclaiming the same, and the expulsion of the Polygar for the Information of the Inhabitants; or to submit to the consequences above Enumerated of a divided authority, which tho' they might be left less in proportion to the energy shewn by the Company's Representative on the spot, the Board are persuaded cannot be controuled but in a partial degree at the same time that the Board would advise the adoption of the former of these alternatives, they feel persuaded, the Polygars once impressed with the resolution of Government to adhere to this decided mode of proceeding, would be more punctual in their payments, and in all respects more obedient to the Circar than under any other system of management, &

they

they are of Opinion that all Polygars who shal thus incur the forfeiture of their Pollams, if they submit without resistance to the authority of Government, should be allowed a pension equal to their comfortable subsistense, but to be obliga to reside in any part of the Company's districts where it may be thought most proper.

50 & 51 Mr. Harington made a seperate Report to the Board of the points noticed in there Paragraphs.

52 @ 54 The Board entirely concur in the propriety of the measures suggested in these Paragraphs — they have repeatedly, and strongly urged to the Collectors at Dindigul the necessity of setting aside entirely all intermediate agency in the receipt of the Peshcush from the Poligars, and they have already enjoi the acting Collector to exert his utmost endeavours to eradicate a system which has prove so baneful to the Country — It is further resolved to recommend the observations of the Committee to his particular attention

and

and he will see that the new sunnud provides for a strict conformity thereto on the Part of the Polygars

55 The Board will hereafter take an opportunity of reporting their sentiments on the Table of exchange, submitted in this Paragraph, to the Right Honble the Governor in Council

56 The Board in the year obtained the sanction of Government for the Collector at Dindigul to Coin Cash whenever he found there was a scarcity of Copper currency but it does not appear he ever availed himself of the privilege

Resolved to recommend that the subject of this Paragraph be referred to the mint master for his report, and that his Lordship will be pleased to issue the necessary order for a supply of 300,000 Cash for the benefit of the District, the whole to be issued immediately, or in part at the discretion of the Collector —

agreed

57 Agreed to submit to his Lordship the Expediency of deputing one of the Assistants of the Commercial Resident at Tinnevelly to the Dindigul District for the purpose of inspecting the manufactures, and ascertaining whether any of them are calculated for the Company's Investment.

58 The Documents referred to in this Paragraph cannot fail to be of essential use to the Collector - and with respect to the Enams in the Pylney District, it is agreed to recommend to Government that all those which appear to have been alienated since the Company's Government be forthwith resumed, and that the validity, or otherwise of those in general, held at the period of the Capture in 1790 be determined upon the same principle as proposed by the Commrs in the 17th Paragraph of their Report in reference to the Circar Lands.

It appearing by the statement H & dd that the Devatan or Church Lands attached

attached to the great Pylney Pagoda are very extensive, and that under Tippoo and Seid = Saheb's Governments, a pecuniary allowance was given in lieu of them, much below the value of these Lands, resolved to direct the acting Collectors — attention to this subject, and to desire he will ascertain what would be an adequate support in Land, or money for this Pagoda, - and whether the former, or latter would be most adviseable ~

59 The Committee have so fully stated the advantages which might be reasonably expected to result from a free communication being opened between the Dindigul district, and the other Coast, and being of opinion it may be effected with ~ little difficulty; the Board have not a doubt his Lordship will readily adopt the most effectual measures for promoting an object noless desirable in a Commercial than a political point of view -

The Board cannot close their

H

remarks

49

remarks on the report before them, without recording the very particular satisfaction they have derived from the perusal, and consi=deration of it. The intelligent documents which accompany it in support of the information therein conveyed offer the strongest testimony of the laborious, and efficient exertions, of the Gentlemen employed on this investigation, while the data they contain afford a certain ground work for securing a more adequate future Revenue from, and at the same time for introducing a defined System of Government into a District, where it is evident the greatest irregularities have hitherto prevailed.

Ordered that Copy of the forego=ing remarks be laid before Government for their information and orders.

A true Copy

G. Wrattan
Ag. Sec.

Ex.d R.H. Lathom

Historical memoranda of the Dindigul District commencing with the period of its transfer to the Mysore Government from Trichinopoly—

1741 ----------- Antecedent to this period the District of Dindigul was attached to Trichinopoly, when being threatened with invasion by the Mahrattah army, Meer Imam Ullah, the Foujedar, then in charge, treated with Birkee Venket Row, who commanded a Mysorean army of about 4,000 Horse & 10,000 Infantry below the Gauts, for the surrender of Dindigul in prefe=rence to its being taken possession by the Mahrattas, an event they had reason to apprehend. The terms having been acceded to, Birkee Venket Row marched immediately from Carroor, and possessed himself of Dindigul, to the management of which he was appointed by Kima Raje Worrear, the then Rajah of Mysore.

At this period the Polliams of Pylney, and Veropatchy were attached to the Daraporam District, as were those of Yerracotah, & Mambarra to Aravacourchy—

In

In the same year the Village, or Talook of Verashandoor was detached from the Pollam of Ammanayjenoor, and annexed to the Circar Lands — the present Pollam of Pulliapagnaigenoor which was the dependant of Ammanayjenoor was also rendered distinct, and held separately by its own Poligar. —

1741 ------------------- Wargurra / or Vadagherry / Pollam was resumed this year on account of Arrears of Peseush —

1742 ------------------- At this period the District is said to have yielded a Revenue of about Cally Chec.rs 1,77,975 " " " or Star Pagodas 10,700

Cumbum, & Goodalore / now Circar were at this date separate Poligar Villages /, paying a Peseush to Dindigul —

1748 ------------------- In this year the Pollam of Marra having fallen much in arrear, was resumed.

Birkee Venket Row was recalled in this year, and succeeded by Venkatapah, —

1751 ---------- who was relieved in 1751 by Namgeery Rajah.

1753 ------------------- Shenavass Row, the son of Birkee Venket Row, was at this time appointed to manage the

51
101

the Circar Villages, and the above named Venka-tapah to superintend the Pollams -

1755 ------------------- Venkatapah in this year reported to Seringapatam the Contumacy of the Poligars, and their having fallen very considerably in arrear - in consequence Hyder Alley was sent to subdue them with about 700 Horse, 1000 Infantry, and 4 Guns -

1756 ------------------- Hyder Ally having been joined by the Poligars of Amianaignoor and Nellacotah, arrived at Pylney with the above Force, and having defeated the Poligar who had 7 or 8000 Followers, he plundered the District of Property to a considerable Amount. The Poligar who had fled to the Hills soon after accepted Cowle, & agreed to pay a Nuzzer of 1,75,000 Chec.rs -

From Pylney Hyder marched to Verapapatchee, on the borders of which he was met by the Vackeel of the Poligar, who agreed to pay a Nuzer of C. Chec.rs 75,000 - From thence he proceeded to Cunnavaddy, where he was detained by the resistance of the Poligar two months,

which

which period was employed in clearing away the Jungles surrounding the Strong Hold of the Poligar, who finally agreed to pay 300,000 C: Chue.ⁿˢ, of which 70,000 C Chue.ⁿˢ were given to Hyder on the spot.

From Cunniavaudy Hyder prosecuted his march towards Errivor (or Jerryados) and was opposed on the way by a Party of men detached by the Poligar of Suckumputty, who were nearly all put to death by his Troops — after this event the Vackeels of the Poligars of Errivor (or Jerryados) and Suckumputty came to Hyder, and consented to pay as follows — the former 70,000 C Chue.ⁿˢ the latter 30,000 C Chue.ⁿˢ —

Hyder next proceeded to Bodianaignoor, the Poligar of which opposed him for several days, and then fled; in consequence the Ulliam was sequestered, and put under management.

During Hyder's stay at Bodianaignoor the Poligar of Combam came to pay his respects, and consented to pay 10,000 Chuckrums

at

At Ootampollam, where Hyder marched after leaving Rodienaignoor, the Poligars of Cumbum, and Goodolore waited upon him, and the former agreed to pay 10,000 Chucks, & the latter 2,000 Chucks, but instead of performing this agreement they fled, and their Pollams were sequestered; - since which event they have constantly formed part of the Circar Lands -

In the progress of his tour, & on his return to Dindigul Hyder resumed the following Pollams, the Poligars having failed to pay the required Nuzers Vizt.

Cumniavady.
Erroor (or Jerryadoo)
Seekumputty
Dediancotahe
Vultiapanaignoor
&
Deodanputty

The latter had been some years before seized upon by the Poligar of Cumniavady, whom Hyder secured, and sent a Prisoner to Bangalore where he

he died.

Before Hyder had time to settle finally with the Poligars of Pyfney, and Verapatchy who had paid but small proportions of their promised Nuzars, he was recalled (in 1757) by the Mysore Rajah to oppose a Body of Mahrattas commanded by Gopaull=Hurry, which were advancing towards Seringapatam, and having defeated them, the Rajah transferred to him all the Executive authority.

It was supposed that Hyder collected about half the Nuzers demanded by him - when he arrived in the District the only resumed Pollams were Waugarea (or Vadaghery) and Madoor, and when he left it all had been resumed except.

Nellacotah

Amianaiguoor

Combay.

Yerrycotah &c. } These, which formerly belonged to
Mamberra }

Aravacourchy, he annexed to the Dindigul District.

Shenavasa

53 105

Shenivasa Row having been removed from the Station he held over Poligars, Venkatapah was appointed Sole Aumil, or manager of the District; and he was succeeded by Soornarniah Moodely

1758 ---------- 1758 who restored the Poligars to the following Pollams Viz.

Guntupe Naig noor

Yerrasichanoor

Towarh Mader

Ammatera

Maranoot

Yemealaperam

1760 ---------- Sher Cawn a Surdar belonging to Isoof Cawn of Madura, with about 300 Horse, and 2000 Infantry invaded the Dindigul District, and after an action near Battlegonta with Ballapah, the Mysore Foujedar, who was killed with many of his Followers he took possession of the Districts of Battlegoonta Outampollam, Perriacollum, Cumbum &c. which he continued to hold until Madura was taken from Isoof Cawn

1762 ---------- Isoof Cawn, when he (Sher Cawn) relinquished his Conquests -

1767 ------------------ Colonel Wood's Army came to Dindigul, and laid siege to the Fort, which was taken after one days resistance - The English remained in possession Eight Months, and the District was then restored by Treaty to Hyder

1768 ---------- Ally, who sent Pumgerry Rajah to superentend its management -

1771 ------------------ Pumgerry Rajah was succeeded by Harmoutty Venkattopah -

1772 ------------------ The Dindigul District was given as a Jagheer to Meer Sahib, the Brother in law to Hyder, and Father of Cummer - ul - deen - on the condition of his keeping up 1000 Horse in Hyders Army, besides the Troops necessary for the defence of the District - when he took charge, the five Pollams above mentioned to have been left by Hyder in possession of the Poligars, and the six restored by Soorianarniah Mordely were in the same state the others were resumed; excepting however,

Pylney

54 107

Pylney, and Verapatchy which did not at this time belong to the Dindigul District.

1773 .... In this year the following Pollams were resumed Viz.

Guntupmaignoor

Combay

Yerrasicknoor

Wellacotah

Pylney ....
&
Veerapatchy .... } These, which formerly belonged to the Daraporam District, were at this time annexed to Dindigul - and the Peshcush having been almost entirely withheld they were plundered, and the Poligars dispossessed.

At this period the District is said to have yielded a Revenue of C Chuc.rs 259,089. or Star Pag.s 148,051

1774 .... In this year the following Pollams were resumed Viz.

Maranoot

Yemealoporam

Towarnada
&

Amaterra

Amaterra — & Sundaypoor & Taveram were restored

1775 ------------------------ Meer Sahib was ordered with his Party to join Hyder, for the purpose of assisting in reducing Gootty &ca. He left the District in charge of Conarie Row, and did not afterwards return to it, for scarcely was Hyder's Campaign

1780 -------- to Gootty, and Goorumconda terminated when he accompanied Hyder to the Carnatic, where

1781 -------------- he lost his life at the Battle of Porto Novo —

1782 ------------------------ Hyder resumed the Jaghire of Dindigul, and Sent Sah-Abas, and Trimul Row to manage the District —

1783 ------------------------ In the Month of April Colonel Lang took Dindigul; and all the Pollams &ca. which had been Resumed were restored to the Poligars altho' from the forgoing Relation they had been dispossessed for many years — only five Pollams Vizt.

Taveram

Yerracotah

Mambarra

Amianaigure
&

Sundaypoor

Sundaypoor

Were in possession of their Poligars at the period Dindigul was captured —

1784 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - The District was restored to Tippoo by the Treaty of Mangalore, in July of this year — During the Interval no European Collector was stationed at Dindigul it was manag under the Direction of Mr. John Sulivan, Resident at Tanjore —

The District after its surrender was given to Seid Sahib, a Relation of Tippoo Sultan, as a Jagheer, on condition of his keeping up a thousand Horse; and he arrived at Dindig in September 1784 —

— At this period the District is reported to have yielded C Chuck.s 209,226 „ „ or St. Pag.s 119,554 „ „ „

The following Pollams were resumed by Seid Sahib — Viz.t

1785 - - - - - - - - - Pylney

Sundaypoor

&

Erreoor (or Jerryadoo)

1786

1786 ---------- Sockempetty
&
Marroor

1788 ------------------ Tippoo came to Dindigul, and resumed all the remaining Pollams on account of their arrear of Peshcush (except Combay, Yerracotah and Mambarra) Vizt.

Guntissp Naiqnoor
Taveram
Bodianaiqnoor
Yerrosiecknoor
Pulliapanaiqnoor
Nellocotah
Verapatchey
Cunnavady
Marranoot
Yemcoloporam
Towachmada
Ammatera
Amsanaiqnoor
&
Dodiencotah ~

The Pollams were at the same time separated from the Dindigul District, and

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and made dependant upon Shinkledroog - the charge of them was taken also from Seid Sahib and given to persons nominated by Tippoo, who, with the dispossessed Poligars, it is said, embezzled the greater portion of the Revenue.

Seid Sahib never allowed the Pollams of Vadagherry (or Worgareah) & Deodanpetty to be held by the Poligars during his Government.

1790 - - - - - - - - - - - - The Pollam of Sadayoor was restored.

Seid Sahib marched from Dindigul with a Party to join Tippoo at Darap... and in August 1790 The Fort of Dindigul was taken by the Army under the Command of Colonel James Stuart, at which ~~which~~ period only four Pollams were in possession of the Poligars - Viz.

Combay

Yerracotah

Mambarra
&
Sundayoor

But shortly after, all the other Pollams, which had

had been resumed, were restored, including those transferred to Shinkledroog in 1788 by the English Government.

1796 (31st Augt.) ---------------- At this date the following Pollams are resumed. Viz.

Pylney

Madoor

Sorkumputty

Sundayoor

&

Yerragadoo, (or Errioor)

(Signed) William Harington

(Signed) William Macleod

A true Copy

Geo. Stratton

Ad. Sec.

Exd. RHLathom

Mutchilaca _

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To the Honble united East India Company

Mutchilaca written and given by Canamanany Greapah Naidoo, Poligar in the Passes of the Pergan=nahs of Innacondah and Bellumcondah, with Intent to put a stop to the Disturbances and Robberies frequently committed in the said Pergun.

Whereas It pleased Mr. George Andrew Ram the Honble Company's Collector in the Guntoor Circar to summon me by Cowle to appear at his Cutcherry, as an hereditary Meerasydar of the Utchoo Kauvel. I thereupon came to Guntoor and gave an arzee, that if I shall be employed in the Service of the Honourable Company and allowed Sybendies, I will perform my Meerasy in the mode proposed; that is to say, I will, as much as in me lies, prevent all Robberies and Disturbances in the said Circar, for which the Honourable Company have granted me a Cowlenamah conformable to my Durcast, or proposal. I there=fore now enter into the following Engagement _

I am

1st I am to receive Pay for Two hundred and fifty tw[o]
(252) Sybendies at the rate of Three hundred and
fifty Madras Pagodas (350) ℔ Month, particu-
-lars as in the Account annexed Marked A
This sum of Three hundred and fifty Madras Pag[odas]
I am to receive monthly from the Collector at Guntoo[r]

2nd The Kavel Fees Jonnaloo and Sheep that I
was accustomed to receive as Mamool in the
said Pergannahs, have been Valued at (130) M.P. o[ne]
hundred and thirty Madras Pagodas ℔ annum,
which amount I am also to receive from the
Company's Collector at Guntoor, and I am not [to]
receive or Collect a single Cash from the Villag[es]
Either upon these accounts or upon any othe[r]

3rd Agreeable to Maumool, I am to pay to the Circa[r]
on Account of the District of Cummulcheruvo
including four Villages which I have been accu-
-med to hold. (the Annual amount whereof ha[s]
been estimated at (350) M.P. three hundred and fifty
M Pag.) (21) M.P. Twenty one Madras Pag. Peishcush
particulars as ℔ Account annexed Marked B. fo[r]
the maintenance of (100) one hundred Cutubody Ta[liars]
who are to attend on the Utchoo Kavil duty a[nd]
accord-

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according to Maumool; as I have represented in my Arzee these Cutubody Peons are also to attend the Honourable Company's Collector at Guntoor whenever they may be Called for —

4th I am to Cause Either my Brother Venkannah or my son Narsiah to live near the Residence of the Honourable Company's Collector at Guntoor, and to do such service as may be ordered them, and I am also to give Information to the Honourable Company's Collector of every occurrence which may happen in the Talook —

5th I am to be ready at all times to appear Personally at the Huzoor, the moment I am Summoned by the Collector and to give strict attention to all his Orders —

6th I am to receive a European Officer and Native Commandant who will be appointed to act in concert with me — in whatsoever part of my Possess they may judge most proper, either to Command or to muster my People, and I am to act Conformable to their Orders, reporting to them whatever I and my People do —

7th I am to keep Chincho Mulia Naidoo under the orders of the aforesaid Officer and Commandant continuing

continuing on good Terms with him, and allowing him Fifty Pcms and keeping him with me — and if either at his own Suggestion, or at the Suggestion of the Zemindar, or by Misconduct, he do not Sub=mit to place himself under the Protection of the Honourable Company. I shall punish him confor=mable to the Orders I may receive —

8th I am to allow the European Officer or Native Commandant aforesaid, or such Officers as they may appoint to exercise and discipline my People in the Military Exercise and Discipline practised by the Company's Troops.

9th I am to deliver up to the Honourable Compa=ny's Collector; all Robbers, whom I may apprehend in the Talooks. — In case I find any difficulty in Apprehending such Robbers, I am to give a true account of them and their Haunts, to the said Hon'ble Company's Collector, producing Proofs for what I advance. If I should not be able to apprehend the Persons or give a clear account of them as aforesaid, I am then to be responsible for the Effects taken away by the Robbers in the Talooks —

Talooks – I am to Produce Evidence and Proofs of any Misdeeds which the Zemindars may Commit –

11.th If I fail or am not able to perform, even a single Article of this, My present Engagement, or am found any wise concerned in the Misdeeds or Intrigues of the Zemindars, I am to be Deprived of the said Meerasy and also of my Employment and to undergo such punishment as the Honourable Company may think Proper to inflict on me; This is given by my free concent –

(Signed) Canamany Gunapah – (L.S.)

Particulars of Pay to the Sybenbees

		P. F. C.		M.P. F. C.
Pay of	240 Sybenbees	at 1.1.40	each ℔ month	270 – –
D.o	10 Naigues	at 2 – –	D.o ℔ D.o	20 – –
D.o	2 Duffadars	at 5 – –	D.o ℔ D.o	10 – –
	252			
D.o to me, my Brother, and my son together D.o				50 – –
			Total M Pag.s	330 – –

Particulars of the Estimated value and Peshcush of the villages to the District of Cunnulcheroos –

	Estimated value ℔ annum	Peshcush ℔ Annum	Net Revenue
Cunnulcheroos	150 – –	– –	150 – –
Berjapully	75 – –	5 – 18 –	69 – 18 –
Cadamaty Ganapavaram	50 – –	10 – –	40 – –
Maulapados	75 – –	5 – 18 –	69 – 18 –
Total M P.s	350 – –	21 – –	329 – –

Dated 1.st April 1796 –

Translated from the Original

(Signed) G Ram Collector

(Signed) Canamany Gunapah

A true Copy

Ex.d R.H. Latham

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Draft of a Sunnud for the Poligars of the Dindigul District on a ten years lease, proposed to be given by the Honble East India Company.

The English Circar having on the Conquest of the Dindigul Country, been graciously pleased to restore you to the Pollam of of which you had been dispossessed by the Mysore Circar, you are to be obedient, & thankful for that Indulgence, and you, and your legal Heirs are hereby allowed to hold the said Pollam for the term of ten years, commencing with the year Pungalla (A: D: 1797) on paying the following Annual Peshcush and under the Conditions hereafter prescribed.

(1207) Pingala

(1208) Caliyoogtee

(1209) Shidharty

(1300) Raudree

(1301) Doormahee

(1302) Doondawee

(1303)

(1303) Roodrocarie

(1304) Ruthatchy

(1305) Corodhunna

(1306) Atchiah

The conditions of your tenure are these —

1.st .... You are implicitly to obey all orders you may receive from the Circar.

2.nd .... You are not to keep up above Armed men for the protection of your Pollam against Collaries, and for the purposes of Collection — These only excepted all the Ryots &c.a of your Pollam are to be allowed to imploy themselves in Agricul-ture Trade or Handicrafts; and if at any time it shall be discovered that you assemble a greater Number of armed men than those above authoriz'd, upon any pretence whatever, without the permission of the Circar, you will be considered as guilty of a Breach of your Muchulka —

3.rd .... You are not to engage in any quarrel with, or be guilty of any Violence towards other Poligars, because all disputes between you

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are to be referred to, and decided upon by the Circar, whose province alone it is to determine upon them, and to inflict any necessary Punishment 121

4th .... You are not to take, or authorize to be taken the life of any Person, or to maim, or cause to be maimed any Person whatever, and you are at all times to give up to the Circar any Person in your Pollam when required, whether a Ryot, or not together with the Evidence written, and personal in proof of any Crime committed

5th .... If any person residing in your Pollam should Complain to the Circar of apprefsion exercised by you, or your People; you must abide by the decision of the Circar

6th .... You are not to protect Theives, or Robbers of any discription, nor to afford an Asylum to any refugee or Person expelled from Tippoo Sultaun's Country, the Pollams, or other Country of the Circar

7th .... You are permitted to make you own afsefsments according to mamool, and all the profits exceeding the above mentioned

Peshcush

Perheush will be your property, and right, but you are required to give every under tenant in your Pollam a Putta in the month of Margullee (December) every year, expressing the amount of the rent of each Individual, specifying whether to be received in kind or Specie; and if both, in What proportions; and adapting the Payments to the Seasons of Produce — and you are not upon any occasion to collect more than the Sums expressed in your Puttahs, and at the close of the year, or when the terms of the Puttas are fulfilled you are to grant them a full discharge —

8th. ---------- You are held responsible for all Thefts, Robberies, and Murders committed within the bounds of your Pollam you will be obliged on conviction of the Offenders to pay a fine to the Circar equal to the amount of the property that may be Robbed, or stolen within the bounds of your Pollam, — besides restoring the Property, or its full Value to the Owners; and if any Persons who may be considered as Residents of your Pollam

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shall be detected in having committed theft, Robbery, or Murder in any other part of the Country, you will be held answerable for such outrages, and for the surrender of such Persons to the Circar

9th. ------------ You will allow all Inams ~ according to Mamool ~

10th. ------------ If the Circar shall have reason to object to the Conduct of your Predaunee, or any other Person acting in a ministerial Capacity in your Pollam, and shall insist on your ~ dismission of him from your Employ you shall immediately comply with the order for that purpose ~

11th. ------------ The English Circar not approving of your having a Vackeel at the Hussoor, direct that you will always send your Representations to the Collector by a Common Peon, or Hircarrah also, as the Kistbundy annexed to this Sunnud has been adapted to the seasons of Produce, & sales to prevent the necessity of borrowing Money, that you will always send your Kists from your Pollam direct to the Hussoor Treasury, (in

return

return for which a regular Receipt will be sent you by the Collector) and not apply to Shroffs at Dindigul to pay them as the Interference of Money Lenders is Ruin to your Pollam.

12th............The English Circar having fixed the limits of your Pollam you are Positively prohibited from encroaching upon the Pollam of any other Poligar, or upon the Circar Lands.

13th............You are positively interdicted from Collecting any Cavelly fees, the English Circar having resumed them, resolving to protect the Inhabitants of the Circar Lands with their own Troops, and Peons, and to inf[lict] exemplary punishment on all Persons detected in Committing Robberies, or other outrages there[in]

14th............You are positively interdicted from Collecting Road Customs either within, or without the limits of your Pollam, it having been resolved that no Road Customs shall be Collected but by the Circar.

15th............To evince your disposition at all times to be obedient to the Circar, and

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not to resist its authority in any respect whatever, you will not erect, or allow to be erected any Fort, or Place of defence of any dis=cription in your Pollam, and you will open good Roads in all directions through your Pollam

16th. .... Should you ever be guilty of a Breach of any one of the above specified Conditions, upon which you are hereby allowed to hold your Pollam from the English Circar, or of with holding any one of your Kists, which are particularized in the annexed Kistbundy/ all payments or Presen of whatever kind as "Durbar Kherch" being positively prohibited/ beyond the dates therein stated; you will be considered to have forfeited your Pollam to the Circar & will be proceeded against Accordingly.

The Sunned is executed on the Day of in the year of our Lord— and on the first day of durie, and year Pingala or commencement of Fuslily 1207.

Kistbundy

Kistbundy

13th November - - - 15 ℔ Cent

13th January - - - - 20 ℔ Cent

13th March - - - - 25 ℔ Cent

13th May - - - - - 20 ℔ Cent

13th July - - - - - 20 ℔ Cent

(Signed) Wm. Harington

(Signed) William Macleod

A true Copy

Geo. Hatton

A. D. Sect.

Ext.t from the Minutes of Cen.c 5.h Jan.y 1797 – on the resolutions of Gov.t dat.d 23 Dec.r 1796

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Paras: 1@6. The Accounts referred to the Accountant were only those noted in the 2nd Para: of the Committee's Report as having been taken from the Official Accounts of the Collector and shewing the Gross Collections, Charges and Nett Revenue during his Management – From the Answer of the Accountant since received it appears that they correspond with the official Documents transmitted to his office.

With respect to the fabrication of Accounts and Embezzlement of Revenue, Mr Wynch does not appear from the records of this Department to have been sensible of either, and in regard to his having taken any means for defeating them, his answers to the Committee's Queries furnish the most specific Information the records afford upon the Subject –

7@11. Ordered that the acting Collector do carry into effect the resolution of Government respecting Lingam Monigar. –

13 & 14 – No Remark necessary. –

15. The acting Collector will pay particular attention to the orders of Government in reference to this Para. The Curnums Accounts furnished by the Committee will be his best guide, but he will satisfy himself from Inquiring if there is any, and what objection to the Information conveyed in these Accounts, and report thereon as soon as possible. –

Ordered

Para: 16 Ordered accordingly.—

17 & 18. Ditto ... Ditto.—

19 @ 23 Ditto .. Ditto

24 Mr. Harington reports that the authority from which the Committee obtained the detailed Information of the Rates of Assessment was the Village Curnums.—

25. No Remark necessary.—

26 & 27. Ordered that the acting Collector do submit to the Board previous to the expiration of the present Fussily a State=ment of the Peshcush which he is of Opinion ought to be demanded for the three years Settlement directed by Government.—

28 Ordered accordingly

29 @ 32 The Board hope the Collector will be able to An=swer the Expectations of Government conveyed in their Resolution o[n] these Paras.

33 @ 40. Ordered that the acting Collector be furnished with the necessary Information regarding the arrangement with the Commanawars and Chincowars alluded to by Government. The Board recommend the subject of the Cavelly duties of the Co=gars to his particular attention, in order that it may be [ex]a=mined in what manner best, to protect the Property of the In=habitants, in the event of it's being continued with th[e]

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the Village each is bound to Watch must be ascertained in ord
to their being inserted in the New Cowles.—

Para: 41. The Board think it necessary to observe that the recommendation in favor of the resumption being made was foun-ded on the Investigation of the Committee — the Poligars having been formerly called upon to produce any Documents in their possession without effect by preceding Collectors; whose reports as to the Poligars assumption of the villages, the Committee confirmed — Ordered that the acting Collector do refer to the Statement C.C. and report particular-ly his opinion on the propriety of proposed Resumptions of the vil-ges &ca. therein mentioned, pointing out any further Evidence he can procure of a defective title thereto on the part of the Polygars

The Acting Collector will attend to the Orders of Government respecting the resumption of the 22 Villages alluded to from the Veerapatchee Polygar.—

45 & 46 Ordered accordingly—

47 @ 50. The acting Collector will pay due attention to these o

52 @ 54 Ditto ... Ditto .. Ditto.—

Ordered that the latter part of the Resolution of Government respecting the promotion of Assistants in the Re-venue Department be communicated in a Circular letter.—

56. No Remark necess-

No Remark necessary.—

Ordered that Copies be made with the leas[t] possible delay of the Committee's Report of the 31st. August and o[f] the Proceedings of the Board together with the foregoing Resolution[s] of Government, and the Orders passed thereon; also of the Board's Pro=ceedings on Mr. Harington's separate Report of the 30th. Septem[ber] to be transmitted for the Information and Guidance of the acting Collector.—

A true Extt.—
Geo Stratton
Actg. Secy.

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To the Right Honble Lord Hobart
Governor in Council

My Lord,

In compliance with your orders of the 22^d Ultimo we have taken into consideration the Report of the Committee regarding the Revenue of the Dindigul District; And we have now the Honor to submit Copy of our Proceedings thereon for your Lordship's information and orders. -

We observe in the Committee's Remarks contained in Enclosure No. 2 accompanying their Report, that the Jaghire which your Lordship in your Letter of the 4th November 1795 directed us to Report upon, as having been applied for by Linguem monigar, and pointed out by the man himself to the Committee, instead of being of such considerable value as had been Represented to us by Mr Wynch, and was Reported to your Lordship in our Letter of the 2^d April 1796, appears by the Curnum's accounts to have produced on an average

of

of five years only Chuck.s 565 „ 9 „ 8 - or S. Pag.s 323 „ 13 „
℔ annum - Under the Circumstances stated by the Committee, we request your Lordships' Orders whether it shall be granted to him for a lease of twenty years, on the terms submitted Viz.t For the first five years to pay the fixed Rent of C. Chuckrums 500, or S.Pag.s 285 „ 32 „ 12 ℔ annum and S. Pag.s 400 ℔ annum for the remainder of the Lease. -

6 We have felt much pleasure in recording, the very particular satisfaction, we have derived from the Perusal and Consideration of the Report; The intelligent documents which accompany it in support of the information conveyed offers the strongest testimony of the laborious and efficient exertions of the Gentlemen employed on the investigation, while the data they contain afford a certain Ground Work for securing a more adequate future Revenue, as well as for introducing a defined system of Government, into a district where it is evident the greatest irregularities have hitherto prevailed. -

67 A Letter addressed to us by Mr Ha[rring]- 133
-ton on his leaving Dindigul, stating the me[asures]
he had adopted in regard to the Revenues of th[e]
District during the time they were under his
charge, having particular reference to the Com-
-mittee's Revenue Report above noticed we
deferred taking it into consideration until tha[t]
Report should be transmitted to us, and the Resolu-
-tions now passed thereon, as contained in the
accompanying Copy of Proceedings applying in
general to the Points noticed in Mr Harington's
separate Letter, and as we entirely approve the
measures pursued by him, it is only necessary to
forward Copy thereof for your Lordships Informa-
-tion, and to request your sanction to the measures
submitted in the 15th and 18th Paras. —

Mr Harington represents that
from the Information he had received, there
was no reason to apprehend any difficulty in
taking possession of the Pollams, mentioned by
him, tho' it may be found necessary to station a
few seapoys in each for a short period to give
confiden[ce]

confu[illegible] to the Inhabitants. —

We are well pleased to observe t[illegible] success of the experiment made by Mr Harington in letting out the Villages in the manner detaile[d] in the 7th Para of his Letter, and we have every reason to hope from the short experience we have had of the Zeal and activity of the acting Collector, that a satisfactory settlement will be effected throughout the whole. —

As connected with part of Mr Harington's Report we take this occasion to submit Copy of a Letter from Mr Hurdis a[nd] we trust your Lordship will approve of th[e] measures he has adopted in Regard to the Pollam of Deodanaputty, as well as of his Reasoning [on] the subject, giving efficacy as far as possible to the Civil authority, without the aid of Troo[ps] a conduct which we consider extremely judi-cious, and we concur in his Opinion that in all cases of intended Resumption of a Pollam [the] attempt should be in the first instance [made] to sequester it by the deputation of a Tahsi[ldar]

135

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entire

proceeding

as recommended

=mittee's Report, being

at Dindigul, - while such

with promptitude the orders of

at hand, there is reason to hope the Poly

be deterred from Resistance to the Civil authority,

and experience has shewn that they are only

to be awed, or forced into subjection. -

We have the Honor to be,

My Lord,

Your most Obedient

humble Servants

(Signed) Edward Saunders

&c. Members

Fort St. George

15th November 1796. -

(A true Copy)

Geo. Stratton

Ast. Sec.

RH Lathom

No. 1

Dindigul

Report

of the [illegible]ommittee & the [illegible]oards remark

31st Augt. 1796.

[illegible] கொள்ளப்பட்ட

[illegible] மாதம் 1987 வருடம்

செப்பனிட்டு முடிந்த

[illegible] மாதம் 1987 வருடம்

ஆராய்ச்சி [illegible]

கையொப்பம்.